

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for:

- † the bereaved Truman family. Mrs Truman's brother passed away yesterday.
- † all senior citizens in our congregation and those who are house-bound.
- † in the Diocese, for Wesley Church, Colaba and the Revd K. Dyvasirvadham.
- † the Church of North India's Diocese of Rajasthan and the Rt Revd Darbara Singh.
- † the Church of South India's Diocese of North Karnataka and the Rt Revd Ravikumar Niranjana.
- † in the Anglican Communion, for the Church in Central America and The Most Revd Julio Murray Thompson (the Bishop of Panama).

Announcements

- *World Day of Prayer* is observed every year on March 5. Each year women from a particular country compile the service. This year's service has been compiled by the women of the Pacific island nation of Vanuatu. The theme is, 'Build on a strong foundation' (St Matthew 7. 24 - 27). The *Diocesan Women for Christian Service* will be hosting an online service on March 5 at 6pm (zoom meeting ID: 9011959641, pass code - DWFCS2019)
- Due to the current restrictions on gatherings, the Diocesan Council has been postponed till further notice..
- Lenten Bible Study is being conducted online every Wednesday at 7pm. There was an encouraging response to the first one. These will be lead by the Lay Readers. The theme this Lent is: 'Discipleship'. ID: 2292392476, pass code: 123456
- An online service will be held in memory of the late Mr. T. Thomas on March 2 at 10 am (zoom meeting ID: 2292392476, pass code: 123456)
- All members are reminded, in case they have not done so already, to please pay their annual subscription before March 31, 2021 .
- There have been new restrictions announced which cap the number of people in places of worship to fifty. Thank you for adhering to the safety protocols.
- Presently administration of Holy Communion is not allowed. Until further instructions from the Bishop, the service will be that of the Liturgy of the Word. Read the Diocesan advisory carefully.
- Place your offering in the box placed at the entrance.

For your safety

Please keep social distance at all times



Please stay in your seat as much as possible



Please use face covering at all times during the service



Please use hand sanitiser on the way in and out

Please take this order of service away with you to reflect on the readings and prayers and a reminder of your visit.

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.



St Thomas'
CATHEDRAL

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The Church of North India

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Order of Service for the Liturgy of the Word

The Second Sunday in Lent

TEXT FOR THE DAY

The Book of Jeremiah is a complex admixture of literary genres, voices, disordered chronological segments, and perhaps even authors. These verses could easily lead to the conclusion that Jeremiah is a harbinger of only curse and doom; that the God to whom the book bears witness is completely content with an eternal agenda of punishment and vengeance upon humans. Such, however, would do a tragic disservice to the book. A closer look will reveal, Jeremiah provides an indispensable witness to the complex reality, difficulty, and often misguidedness of the human experience. Rather than simply turning away (as verse five indicates humans are prone to do), God chooses instead to interact with humans. God's interactions certainly may include fierce anger toward and even harsh punishment upon humans, but never does God turn away from those created in the divine image. Sin makes its mark upon the human heart. Nevertheless, Jeremiah also testifies to a promised day when God will overwrite those marks with a new covenant, inscribing God's law upon the human heart so that humans will no longer turn away from the God who never turned away from them.



Sunday 28 February 2021 • 8.45 am
Welcome

The Gathering

Prelude on the hymn tune, 'Martyrdom'

All keep silence and prepare for worship

All stand as the procession of clergy enter

Voluntary

C. H. H. Parry (1848 - 1918)

Processional Hymn

Sung by the Cantors.

- 1. When I survey the wondrous Cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.**
- 2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His Blood.**
- 3. See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?**
- 4. His dying crimson, like a robe,
Spreads o'er His body on the Tree;
Then am I dead to all the globe,
And all the globe is dead to me.**
- 5. Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Words: Isaac Watts (1674 -1748)

Music: Harmony chiefly from S. Webbe, 1820
Adapted by E. Miller
Tune: ROCKINGHAM

All sit

**Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy Cross I cling;
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Saviour, or I die.**

**While I draw this fleeting breath,
When my eyes shall close in death,
When I soar to worlds unknown,
See Thee on Thy judgement throne,
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee.**

Words: Augustus Toplady (1740 – 1778)

Music: Thomas Hastings (1784 – 1872)
Tune: TOPLADY

Fugue

Postlude

Gilles Jullien (c. 1650/ 53 - 1703)

Birthdays this Week

May God bless you abundantly.

Anna Chacko (March 1), Ashra Iype (1), Nalini Isaacs (2),
David Cyprian (3), Sunita Gladston (3), Indira Pastala (4), Ann Iype (6)

Wedding Anniversaries this Week

Be blessed with love, joy and companionship all the years of your life.
Vijay & Meagan Pandian (1)

This order of service is printed on sustainably-produced paper. New Patterns for Worship, material which is included here, is copyright © The Archbishops' Council 2002 and published by Church House Publishing. The Text for the Day is an excerpt from a commentary by Bobby Morris (Pastor of Mt. Pilgrim Lutheran Church, South Carolina.) Worship material has also been drawn from the Book of Common Prayer; Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church of North India. Intercessory prayers are drawn from The Church of St Andrew and Holy Cross, Basildon, England and <https://prayer.knowing-jesus.com>. Hymns are taken from the English Hymnal (1933 edition).

The Dismissal

All say

**God of compassion,
through your Son Jesus Christ
you have reconciled your people to yourself.
As we follow his example of prayer and fasting,
may we obey you with willing hearts
and serve one another in holy love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Closing Prayer

The Blessing *The Presbyter*

And the blessing of God almighty,
The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
Be among you and remain with you always.
Amen.

The Sending Forth

Go now in peace, may the love of God
surround you everywhere you may go.

Natalie Sleeth (1930 -1992)

Hymn at the Closing *Sung by the Cantors*

**Rock of Ages, cleft for me,
Let me hide myself in Thee;
Let the water and the blood,
From Thy wounded side which flowed,
Be of sin the double cure,
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.**

**Not the labour of my hands
Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know,
Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone;
Thou must save, and Thou alone.**

The Greeting

The Presbyter The Lord our redeemer be with you
All and also with you.

Opening Prayer *The Presbyter*

God of our days and years,
we set this time apart for you.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may glorify you.

All Amen.

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God,
though we have rebelled against Him.
Let us then renounce our wilfulness and ask His mercy
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.
Wash away all my iniquity.

All and cleanse me from my sin.

The cantors sing

**Have mercy on us, Lord.
Have mercy on us, Christ.
Have mercy on us, Lord.**

Traditional Urdu melody (Pakistan), arr. R. F. Liberius

The Presbyter declares God's forgiveness in these words

May almighty God,
who sent His Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you His pardon and peace, now and for ever.

All Amen.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.**

Liturgy of the Word

The Presbyter invites all to say

The Collect for the Day

**ALMIGHTY God,
who seest that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves:
Keep us both outwardly in our bodies,
and inwardly in our souls;
that we may be defended
from all adversities which may happen to the body,
and from all evil thoughts
which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Jeremiah Chapter 17

THIS is what the Lord says: "Cursed is the one who trusts in man, who draws strength from mere flesh and whose heart turns away from the Lord. That person will be like a bush in the wastelands; they will not see prosperity when it comes. They will dwell in the parched places of the desert, in a salt land where no one lives. "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat

Gracious God, we pray for the sick and the suffering.

For those undergoing treatments and surgery;
for those recuperating and those who are recovered.

We pray that through their suffering they may all experience
the light of the Gospel.

We pray too for all who administer to the sick and infirm;
for those working in our local health centres and hospitals;
for those working in care homes and those who daily give help at home;
for all local charities.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our Prayer**

May we never place our trust in man, nor put our confidence in our own
abilities by depending on works of the flesh, or trusting in our
own strength.

Let us keep the eyes of our heart, and the meditation of our mind, on our
Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for He is our refuge and strength.

Lord in Thy mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, thank You that You are a faithful God to those that put
their trust in You.

Thank You for the prophecy of Jeremiah and for the knowledge that You
are a righteous God.

Help us at all times, to put our trust in You.

Lord in Thy mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord you search the deepest things.

This day search our heart we pray and help us to abide in Christ day by
day, so that we may be like a tree that blossoms and buds, and brings
forth much fruit, for Your praise and glory.

This we ask in Jesus' name.

**Merciful Father,
accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

All stand

All stand

Greeting of Peace

Once we were far off
but now in union with Christ Jesus we have been brought near
through the shedding of Christ's blood,
for he is our peace. *cf Ephesians 2.13*
The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

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

Please kneel as able or sit

Lent Prose

Intoned by the Cantors

Refrain (all) **Hear us, O Lord, have mercy upon us:
For we have sinned against Thee.**

Cantors O thou chief Corner-stone, Right Hand of the Father:
Way of Salvation, Gate of Life Celestial:
Cleanse Thou our sinful souls from all defilement.

arr. John Scott

Litany

During this period of Lent, give us a new awareness of your presence
in this Cathedral Church here in Mumbai and online and teach us the
humility to accept that all our gifts come from you to be used in the
service of your people and in the spreading of the Gospel.
Live in us through all of our small acts of sacrifice and help us be cheerful in
our observance of Lent and giving as our Lord Jesus Christ commanded.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our Prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for governments around the world and especially our
own as we navigate our way forward through the pandemic.
We especially pray for our City and other places which have seen a
resurgence in recent weeks.
We thank you for the success of the vaccine roll out.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our Prayer**

comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought
and never fails to bear fruit." The heart is deceitful above all things and
beyond cure. Who can understand it? "I the Lord search the heart and
examine the mind, to reward each person according to their conduct, according
to what their deeds deserve."

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 130

Intoned by the Cantors to a chant by Lionel Valdellon

Response (all) **With the Lord there is mercy, and fullness of redemption.**

Out of depths I cry to You. O Lord hear my voice!
I am humbly calling for Your help, O Lord. **R**

If you mark iniquities, Lord, then who can stand?
But forgiveness is with You that You be revered. **R**

My soul trusts in His pure word; I trust in the Lord.
More than watchmen wait for dawn, we wait for the Lord. **R**

With the Lord is kindness and plenteous redemption,
He will redeem Israel from all their sins. **R**

Epistle

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians Chapter 4

Living to Please God

WE beseech you, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye
have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would
abound more and more. For ye know what commandments we gave you by
the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, even your sanctification, that ye
should abstain from fornication; that every one of you should know how to
possess his vessel in sanctification and honour; not in the lust of concupiscence,
even as the Gentiles which know not God; that no man go beyond and defraud
his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such,
as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us
unto uncleanness, but unto holiness. He therefore that despiseth, despiseth
not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

While seated, follow the words sung by the Cantors.

**As pants the hart for cooling streams
When heated in the chase,
So longs my soul, O God, for thee,
And thy refreshing grace.**

**For thee, my God, the living God,
My thirsty soul doth pine:
O when shall I behold thy face,
Thou Majesty Divine!**

**Why restless, why cast down, my soul?
Hope still, and thou shalt sing
The praise of him who is thy God,
Thy health's eternal spring.**

**To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God whom we adore,
Be glory, as it was, is now,
And shall be evermore. Amen.**

Words: Based on Psalm 42

Music: Smith's Sacred Music, 1825 (Scottish melody)
Tune: MARTYRDOM

All stand for the Gospel

The Gospeller The Lord be with you
All **and also with you.**

The Gospel of Christ

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew Chapter 15

All say **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

The Faith of a Canaanite Woman

LEAVING that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, "Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me! My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly." Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, "Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel." The woman came and knelt before him. "Lord, help me!" she said.

He replied, "It is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." "Yes it is, Lord," she said. "Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master's table." Then Jesus said to her, "Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted." And her daughter was healed at that moment.

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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

Remain standing for the Creed.

All recite

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

Sermon
The Revd Avinash Rangayya