



S^t Thomas'
CATHEDRAL

*Mumbai • Estd 1718
The Church of North India*

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Order of Service
for the Liturgy of the Word

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Mothering Sunday

TEXT FOR THE DAY

Today is mid-Lent Sunday, known as Mothering Sunday because of the ancient custom on that day for everyone to return to their mother church – the cathedral church of the area. For some, this would be the only time that the whole family could gather together.

of themes run-
ning Sunday service,
giving for all who
role and all who care for
the pain that some
lessness or bereave-
child or parent;



the part that the Virgin Mary played in our redemption; and prayers for the Women's Fellowship for Christian Service and world-wide church, who is 'mother to us all'. The gospel set for today, recognises also that we are in the season of Lent, with its journey encouraging us to enter into the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Nowadays a number
through our Mother-
which include: thanks-
undertake a mothering
the young; recognising
carry through child-
ment at the loss of a
thanksgiving for the

Sunday 14 March 2021 • 8.45 am

Welcome

The Gathering

Andante
Prelude on the hymn tune, 'St Columba'

Voluntary

W. A. Mozart (1756 - 1791), K. 467
Gordon Cameron (1900 - 1989)

All keep silence and prepare for worship

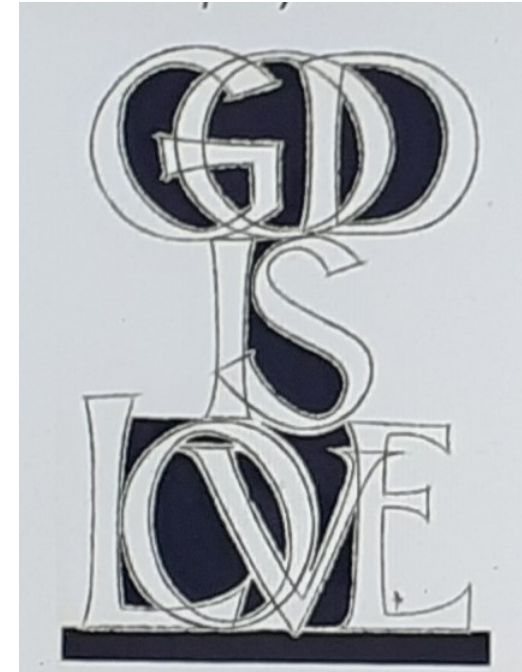
All stand as the procession of clergy enter

Processional Hymn *Sung by the Cantors*

**Our Father God in heaven
on whom our world depends,
to you let praise be given
for families and friends;
for parents, sisters, brothers,
a home where love belongs,
but on this day for mothers
we bring our thankful songs.**

**What wealth of God's bestowing
for all the world to share!
What strength of heart outgoing
to children everywhere!
Our deepest joys and sorrows
a mother's path must trace,
and earth's unknown tomorrows
are held in her embrace.**

**How well we know the story
that tells of Jesus' birth,
the Lord of heaven's glory
become a child of earth;
a helpless infant sleeping,
yet King of realms above,
to find in Mary's keeping
the warmth of human love.**



Continued

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL
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Telephone: (Vestry) **2283 9783**, (R) **2207 1275, 98207 50090**
Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound.

A Prayer for Mothering Sunday

*Jesus, like a mother you gather your people to you;
you are gentle with us as a mother with her children.*

*Despair turns to hope through your sweet goodness;
through your gentleness we find comfort in fear.*

*Your warmth gives life to the dead,
your touch makes sinners righteous.*

*Lord Jesus, in your mercy heal us;
in your love and tenderness remake us.*

*In your compassion bring grace and forgiveness,
for the beauty of heaven may your love prepare us*

Anselm (1109)

**Our Father God in heaven,
to you we lift our prayer,
that every child be given
such tenderness and care,
where life is all for others,
where love your love displays:
for God's good gift of mothers
let earth unite in praise!**

Words: Bishop Timothy Dudley Smith, b.1926
Music: ELLACOMBE, German 18th century melody,
adapted in Gesangbuch, Mainz, 1833

All sit

Praising and Thanking God

On this day, we praise you, our God,
for all mothers who have loved and laughed
and laboured as they cared for their children.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God,
for all mothers who have wept in sorrow and joy for their children.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God,
for as a mother tends her young,
you hold us in your embrace when we walk the road of pain or grief.

All Blessed be God for ever.

We praise you, our God, for Jesus,
born of a woman and nurtured in her love,
and for Mary, a reminder of your patient, waiting love.

All Blessed be God for ever.

On this day, this candle is lit
to remember mothers not with us,
to bring into the light of Christ
any shadows of imperfect mothering
and to draw into Christ's love
all who mother others today.

All Blessed be God for ever.

The candle is lit

The Presbyter invites all to say together

Confession and Absolution

**Let us call to mind all that separates us from God,
our failure to value the love of others
and our failure to love as Christ loves us.
Your love gives us life from the moment of conception.
We fail to live as your children.**

All kneel as able

Trisagion

*The cantor sings through once
All sing the second and third time*

Holy God,
Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal, have mercy upon us.

The Presbyter declares God's forgiveness in these words

May the God of love and power forgive you
and free you from your sins,
heal and strengthen you by His Spirit,
and raise you to new life in Christ our Lord.
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.**

Birthdays this Week

May God bless you abundantly.
Yohan James (15), Rebecca Chempaka (16)

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for:

- † the success of the vaccination drive.
- † an end to the pandemic.
- † all senior citizens in our congregation and those who are house-bound.
- † in the Diocese, for the church in Wada (Palghar District).
- † all retired clergy of the Church of North India & the Church of South India.
- † in the Anglican Communion, the Church in Chile and Bishop Héctor Muñoz.

Announcements

- Log in for Bible Study every Wednesday at 7pm. The theme this Lent is: 'Discipleship'. Zoom meeting ID: 2292392476, pass code: 123456
- Restrictions limiting the number of people in places of worship to fifty still continue. Thank you for adhering to the safety protocols.
- A reminder to all members to please pay their annual subscription, if you have not done so already before the end of the financial year March 31, 2021.
- 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
and give one another space as you exit through doorways.
▼
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**
and dispose it yourself.

This order of service is printed on sustainably-produced paper. Worship material has been drawn from the Book of Common Prayer; Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church of North India and <https://www.churchofengland.org>. The Text for the Day is from St Edmundsbury Cathedral, England. Hymns are taken from the English Hymnal (1933 edition) and © 2003 Hope Publishing Company.

Hymn at the Closing
Sung by the Cantors

Refrain:

**All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful:
The Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colours,
He made their tiny wings.**

**The purple-headed mountain,
The river running by,
The sunset and the morning,
That brightens up the sky;**

**The cold wind in the winter,
The pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden,
He made them every one;**

**The tall trees in the greenwood,
The meadows for our play,
The rushes by the water,
To gather every day;**

**He gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we may tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well.**

Words: Mrs C. F. Alexander (1818 – 95)
Tune: ROYAL OAK, adapted from an English traditional melody
by Martin Shaw

Postlude

Enrico Bossi (1861 - 1925), Op. 104 No. 2

Ave Maria

Liturgy of the Word

The Presbyter invites all to say

**God of love,
passionate and strong,
tender and careful:
watch over us and hold us
all the days of our life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Collect for the Day

Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Exodus Chapter 2

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So, the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

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

Psalm

Psalm 46

Sung by the Cantors

Response: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. **R**

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city, it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice, the earth melts. **R**

“Be still and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.”

The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge. **R**

Psalm tone: Richard Proulx, 1975
Refrain: A. Gregory Murray, 1963

Epistle

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Corinthians Chapter I

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

All stand

The Dismissal

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

*The Amens are sung to the hymn
'The King of Love my Shepherd is'*

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless you:
All Amen.

May God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless you:
All Amen.

May God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless you.
All Amen.

May almighty God, Creator, † Redeemer and Sustainer of the world bless
you today and evermore.
All Amen.

The Sending Forth

Sung by the Cantors

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

Natalie Sleeth (1930 -1992)

Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me;
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.

For their hope when despairing;

All Thanks be to God.

For their service without limit;

All Thanks be to God.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill,
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Words: Based on Psalm 23, by Sir H.W. Baker (1821 – 77)
Tune: *ST COLUMBA*, an Irish melody

Loving Lord, thank you for all those that we love and care for,
and for all those who love and care for us. On this Mothering Sunday, we
give you special thanks today for our mothers and all who have nurtured us
and ask your blessing upon them.

Lord hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy in this time of uncer-
tainty and distress. We pray for all doctors, nurses and scientists, and all
who are working to discover the right medicines to help those who are ill.

Lord hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

We pray for those who are guiding our nation at this time, and shaping na-
tional policies, that they may make wise decisions.

Lord hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

God of compassion, be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation. In
their loneliness, be their consolation; in their anxiety, be their hope; in their
darkness, be their light; Lord hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

For the vulnerable and the fearful, for the gravely ill, the dying and the be-
reaved, that they may know your comfort and peace:

Lord, hear us, **Lord, graciously hear us.**

In a moment of silence, we give thanks for the many small kindnesses that
transform lives as we offer our own prayers to God. We commend our-
selves, and all for whom we pray, to the mercy and protection of God.

**There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.**

**For the love of God is broader
than the measures of man's mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make His love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify His strictness
with a zeal He will not own.**

**There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.**

**If our love were but more simple
we should take Him at His Word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.**

Words: Frederick W. Faber (1814 – 1863)
Tune: *COVERDALE* by Maurice Bevan (1921 – 2006)

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 John Chapter 19

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

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
All **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 Arpana Rangayya

Greeting of Peace

All stand

Through the prophet Isaiah, God says,
'As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you.'
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

Prayers of the People

Lent Prose

Intoned by the Cantors

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

Cantors Sins oft committed now we lay before Thee with true
contrition, now no more we veil them:
grant us, Redeemer, loving absolution. arr. John Scott

Prayers for Mothers

Praise God who loves us.

All **Praise God who cares.**

For the care of mothers;

All **Thanks be to God.**

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never.
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever.

For their patience when tested;

All **Thanks be to God.**

For their love when tired;

All **Thanks be to God.**

Continued overleaf. Turn over.