

## Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for:

- † the State of Maharashtra and the City of Mumbai - Pray that the surge in cases may be contained; protection for those particularly at risk, sustaining of health workers, for the vaccination drive; our Central and State Governments, for greater restraint and responsibility among people.
- † all senior citizens in our congregation and those who are house-bound.
- † in the Diocese, for All Saint's church in Govandi and the Revd John Thavakumar.
- † all schools and colleges in the Church of North India & the Church of South India
- † in the Anglican Communion, for the Church of England and the Archbishop of Canterbury, The Most Revd Justin Welby, and the Archbishop of York, the Most Revd Stephen Cottrell

## Announcements

- Log in for Bible Study this Wednesday (last in the series.) The theme this Lent is: 'Discipleship'. Zoom meeting ID: 2292392476, pass code: 123456
- **Holy Week services 2021** *These are subject to change.*
  - Palm Sunday Sunday 28 March at 8.45 a.m.
  - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday in Holy Week Evening Prayer at 6p.m.
  - Maundy Thursday Thursday 1 April at 6 p.m.
  - Good Friday Friday 2 April at 9a.m.
  - Easter Vigil Holy Saturday 3 April at 7p.m.
  - The Sunday of the Resurrection Sunday 4 April at 9 a.m.
  - Easter Day

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 of 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/prayer-and-worship/>. The Text for the Day is an excerpt from a sermon by the Revd Michael K. Marsh, St Philip's Church, Uvalde (Episcopal Diocese of West Texas). Hymns are taken from the English Hymnal (1933 edition).

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



**St 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 Fifth Sunday in Lent

### TEXT FOR THE DAY

We don't really acknowledge, talk about, and deal with death. It's a downer in a culture that mostly wants to be happy, feel good, and avoid difficult realities. There is a temptation to want to skip over death and get to resurrection.

Death is the gateway to new life. Death comes first. Death is not always, however, physical. Sometimes it is spiritual or emotional. We die a thousand deaths every day.

Regardless of who or what in our life has died, God in Christ has already cleared the way forward. We have a path to follow. That path is the death of Jesus. Jesus' death, however, is of no benefit to us if we are not willing to submit to death, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. Ultimately, death, in whatever way it comes to us, means that we entrust all that we are and all that we have to God. We let ourselves be lifted up; lifted up in Christ's crucifixion, lifted up in his resurrection, lifted up in his ascension into heaven. He is drawing all people to himself, that where he is we too may be.

Grains of wheat. That is what we are. Through death, however, we can become the bread of life. "Unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies...."

Sunday 21 March 2021 • 8.45 am

Welcome

# The Gathering

Hymn at the Closing  
*Sung by the Cantors*

## Voluntary

Prelude on a tune by Orlando Gibbons

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*

The glory of these forty days  
We celebrate with songs of praise;  
For Christ, by whom all things were made,  
Himself has fasted and has prayed.

Alone and fasting Moses saw  
The loving God who gave the Law;  
And to Elijah, fasting, came  
The steeds and chariots of flame.

So Daniel trained his mystic sight,  
Delivered from the lions' might;  
And John, the Bridegroom's friend, became  
The herald of Messiah's name.

Then grant us, Lord, like them to be  
Full oft in fast and prayer with thee;  
Our spirits strengthen with thy grace,  
And give us joy to see thy face.

Father and Son and Spirit blest,  
To thee be every prayer address,  
Who art in threefold Name adored,  
From age to age, the only Lord. Amen.

Words: Ascribed to St Gregory the Great, 6th cent.

Tune: *ERHALT' UNS, HERR*,  
from *Geistliche Lieder*, 1547

*All sit*

**Beneath the Cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand –  
The shadow of a mighty Rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat  
And the burden of the day.**

**Upon that Cross of Jesus  
Mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of One,  
Who suffered there for me.  
And from my stricken heart, with tears,  
Two wonders I confess, –  
The wonders of redeeming love,  
And my worthlessness.**

**I take, O Cross, thy shadow,  
For my abiding-place;  
I ask no other sunshine than  
The sunshine of his face:  
Content to let the world go by,  
To know no gain nor loss, –  
My sinful self my only shame,  
My glory all – the Cross.**

Words: R. L. De Pearsall (1795 – 1856)

Tune: *BENEATH THE CROSS*  
by D. Sankey (1840 – 1908)

## Postlude

Fugue in B minor on a Theme of Corelli

J.S. Bach, BWV 579 (1685 - 1750)

## Birthdays this Week

May God bless you abundantly.

Annie Thomas (22), Jeffry Frazer (24), Rohit Jacob (25),  
Malathy Samuel (25), Omana Mathew (25), Shantha Kumar (27)

Give us the courage  
to give up our selfishness as we live for others,  
and to give time, care and comfort to the sick.  
May the wounded hands of Jesus bring his healing touch,  
and the light of his presence fill their rooms.  
At this time, Lord, we especially pray  
for the State of Maharashtra and the City of Mumbai.  
Lord, meet us in the silence, **give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give us the courage to give up our fear of death  
and to rejoice with those who have died in faith.  
May the feet of the risen Lord Jesus, once nailed to the cross,  
walk alongside the dying and bereaved in their agony,  
and walk with us and all your Church  
through death to the gate of glory.  
Lord, meet us in the silence,  
**give us strength and hear our prayer,  
here and in eternity. Amen.**

*The cantors sing*

Jesu, grant me this, I pray,  
Ever in thy heart to stay;  
Let me evermore abide  
Hidden in thy wounded side.

Words: 17th cent, tr. Sir H. W. Baker

Tune: SONG 13  
by Orlando Gibbons (1583 - 1625)

*All stand*

## The Dismissal

God,  
who from the death of sin raised you to new life in Christ,  
keep you from falling and set you in the presence of his glory;  
and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy  
Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always.  
**Amen.**

The Blessing  
*The Presbyter*

## The Lenten Acclamation

*The Presbyter* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*All* **His mercy endures for ever.**

Compassion and forgiveness belong to the Lord our God, though we have  
rebelled and wandered far off. Let us then ask for mercy, confessing our sins  
in penitence and faith.

*The Presbyter invites all to say together*

## Confession and Absolution

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry  
and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name.  
Amen.**

*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*

Almighty God have mercy on you,  
forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
strengthen you in all goodness,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.  
*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

**WE beseech thee, Almighty God,  
mercifully to look upon thy people;  
that by thy great goodness  
they may be governed and preserved evermore,  
both in body and soul;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

### Old Testament Reading

A reading from the Book of Exodus Chapter 24

MOSES then wrote down everything the Lord had said. He got up early the next morning and built an altar at the foot of the mountain and set up twelve stone pillars representing the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he sent young Israelite men, and they offered burnt offerings and sacrificed young bulls as fellowship offerings to the Lord. Moses took half of the blood and put it in bowls, and the other half he splashed against the altar. Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it to the people. They responded, "We will do everything the Lord has said; we will obey."

*Continued*

*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 Innocent, captive, taken unresisting:  
Falsely accused, and for us sinners sentenced,  
save us, we pray thee, Jesu our Redeemer.

*arr. John Scott*

## Intercession

We pray to the Lord for courage to give up other things  
and to give ourselves to him this Lent.

Give your Church the courage  
to give up her preoccupation with herself  
and to give more time to your mission in the world.  
**give us strength and hear our prayer.**

May the blood and water flowing from the side of Jesus  
bring forgiveness to your people  
and help us to face the cost of proclaiming salvation.  
Lord, meet us in the silence, **give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give your world the courage  
to give up war, bitterness and hatred,  
and to seek peace. We pray for the people of Myanmar.  
May the shoulders of the risen Jesus,  
once scourged by soldiers,  
bear the burden of political and military conflict in our world.  
Lord, meet us in the silence, **give us strength and hear our prayer.**

Give us the courage to give up quarrels, strife and jealousy  
in our families, neighbourhoods and communities.

May the presence of the risen Jesus,  
his body once broken and now made whole,  
bring peace and direction as we live with one another.  
Lord, meet us in the silence, **give us strength and hear our prayer.**

*Continued overleaf. Turn over.*

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

All stand

## Greeting of Peace

Christ has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.  
We meet in his name and share his peace.  
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, turn to your neighbour  
and share the sign of peace with a namaste*

Moses then took the blood, sprinkled it on the people and said, "This is the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you in accordance with all these words."

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 54

Psalm  
*Sung by the Cantors*

Response ***The Lord upholds my life.***

O God by your name save me,  
And by your might defend my cause.  
O God hear my prayer;  
Hearken to the words of my mouth. **R**

For the haughty men have risen up against me,  
The ruthless seek my life;  
They set not God before their eyes. **R**

Behold, God is my helper;  
The Lord sustains my life.  
Freewill I offer you sacrifice;  
I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness. **R**

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Hebrews Chapter 9

CHRIST being come an High Priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands; that is to say, not of this building; neither by the blood of goats and calves; but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifieth to the purifying of the flesh; how much more shall the blood of Christ, who, through the eternal Spirit, offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

*Continued overleaf. Turn over.*

And for this cause he is the Mediator of a new covenant, that by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the first covenant, they which are called might receive the promise of eternal inheritance.

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

### Gradual Hymn

*While seated, follow the words sung by the Cantors*

**There is a green hill far away,  
Without a city wall,  
Where the dear Lord was crucified,  
Who died to save us all.**

**We may not know, we cannot tell,  
What pains he had to bear,  
But we believe it was for us  
He hung and suffered there.**

**He died that we might be forgiven,  
He died to make us good;  
That we might go at last to heaven,  
Saved by his precious Blood.**

**There was no other good enough  
To pay the price of sin;  
He only could unlock the gate  
Of heaven, and let us in.**

**O, dearly, dearly has he loved,  
And we must love him too,  
And trust in his redeeming Blood,  
And try his works to do.**

Words: Mrs. C. F. Alexander (1823 – 95)      Tune: *HORSLEY* by W. Horsley (1774 – 1858)

*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 12

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

JESUS answered them, saying, The hour is come, that the Son of man should be glorified. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour. Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify thy name. Then came there a voice from heaven, saying, I have both glorified it, and will glorify it again. The people therefore, that stood by, and heard it, said that it thundered: others said, An angel spake to him. Jesus answered and said, This voice came not because of me, but for your sakes. Now is the judgement of this world: now shall the prince of this world be cast out. And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me. This he said, signifying what death he should die.

*The Gospeller* This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.  
*All say*                      **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

*Remain standing for the Creed*