

St. Thomas'

Mumbai • Estd 1718 The Church of North India

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Order of Service for Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday before Lent

(Mission Sunday observed)



Be the good soil

Sunday 20th February 2022 8.45 am

Welcome

Be the good soil

Reflections on the Parable of the Sower Luke 8

The Gospel this morning is the familiar parable of the sower – a meaningful coincidence on the day when we observe *Mission Sunday*. May we be the good soil in God's mission field.

Applying the Parable of the Sower as a mission-field guide may represent a new concept for many missionaries, but I propose that the first generation of disciples likely knew this approach well. For Jesus to place His field strategy within a parable is ingenious.

Encapsulating the lesson in a parable has enabled it to travel across time and cultures. Missionaries longing to work as Jesus did and see results that He experienced in pre-Pentecost Galilee will find value in taking the parable off the pages of Scripture and applying it in the field. Simple obedience, rather than intellectual contemplation, may represent the key to understanding the parable. Remember, it was farmers and fishermen who represented the original recipients of the parable.

The parable's climax moves past three soils with negative results and escalates to a surprising end, the discovery of hundredfold-producing individuals.

Since we know the end of the parable, missionaries approaching their "Galilee" should assume an attitude of confidence. I personally believe that the Parables of the Hidden Treasure and the Priceless Pearl (apparently told not long after the delivery of the Parable of the Sower) were used by Jesus to explain His attitude when approaching new communities in Galilee. The treasure likely represents the harvest coming from the Fourth-Soil Person.

The congregation is asked to join in all text printed in **bold**.

Contribute flowers in memory of loved ones and in thanksgiving.

For your safety please respect others and give one another space.

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 with you** to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit.



Diocesan Mission Sunday, observed

This morning we express our solidarity with the mission work of the Diocese.

The Cathedral has helped contribute towards the building of a church and literacy centre in Kairee village, Johar in Palghar. District, Maharashtra.

We warmly welcome this morning the missionaries, Mr. Devanand and Mr. Crishna who are supported by the Cathedral. They will share their field experiences with us. We pray for both of them and Mr. Vijay Bhoye who runs the literacy centre.

Members of the Cathedral congregation have been actively involved in mission work. We make an annual trip to Kairee and interact with the community there. Medical camps have been organised under the aegis of the Women's Fellowship for Christian Service (WFCS). Our financial support enables mid day meals to be served to the children in the village.

The Revd Keith Pasgon and Revd Vasudev Deshmukh are the diocesan mission coordinators.

At the offertory you are encouraged to contribute generously to support the mission work of the Diocese.

This is our chance to show love and solidarity to our global Church family. Through our prayers, we support missionaries everywhere in spreading the Good News.

Order of Service

The Gathering

Voluntary

Voluntary in G

John Stanley, Op. 7 No. 9 (1712 - 1786)

All keep silence and prepare for worship.

Introit

Sung by the cantors

Now, dear Lord, as we pray, take our hearts and minds far away from the press of the world all around to Thy throne where grace doth abound. May our lives be transformed by Thy love, may our souls be refreshed from above. At this moment, let people everywhere join us now as we come to Thee in prayer.

Ralph Carmichael (1927 - 2021)

All **STAND**

Call to Worship

Led by the Presbyter from the West Door

Presbyter The Lord is the sower of the

seeds of love and redemption.

All But we have not always been

ready to receive these seeds.

Presbyter Today we hear again the scriptures

that remind us of the awesome generosity of God.

All Help us be good soil, O God,

prepared to receive your love and to grow in that love.

Amon

Amen.

All join in singing the hymn at the procession. Turn over.

Hymn at the Procession

Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise: in all His words most wonderful, most sure in all His ways.

- O loving wisdom of our God! when all was sin and shame, a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came.
- ³ O wisest love! that flesh and blood, which did in Adam fail, should strive afresh against the foe, should strive and should prevail;
- ⁴ and that a higher gift than grace should flesh and blood refine, God's presence and His very self, and essence all-divine.

Words: J. H. Newman (1801 - 90)

- ⁵ O generous love! that he, who smote in Man for man the foe, the double agony in Man for man should undergo;
- ⁶ and in the garden secretly, and on the cross on high, should teach his brethren, and inspire to suffer and to die.
- ⁷ Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise: in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways.

Tune: GERONTIUS J. B. Dykes (1823 - 76)

Please be **SEATED**

Follow the readings and the Order of Service for the Lord's Supper in **The Book of Common Prayer** (refer page numbers).

The Presbyter reads † The Collect for Purity † on page 350.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Day | Page 440

Read by the Presbyter

Old Testament Reading | Page 440

A reading from the Book of Genesis 3. 9 - 19.

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Sung by the cantors to a chant by Barnby

Psalm 24 verses I to 5 • Domini est terra

THE earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is: the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein.

- ² For he hath founded it upon the seas : and prepared it upon the floods.
- ³ Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord : or who shall rise up in His holy place?
- ⁴ Even he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart: and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity, nor sworn to deceive his neighbour.
- ⁵ He shall receive the blessing from the Lord: and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

All STAND. 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.

Please be **SEATED**.

The Epistle | Page 441

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians 11. 19 - 31

At the conclusion of the reading:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All **STAND** and join in singing the gradual hymn.

Gradual Hymn

Almighty God, thy word is cast like seed upon the ground, now let the dew of heaven descend and righteous fruits abound.

²Let not the foe of Christ and man this holy seed remove: but give it root in every heart, to bring forth fruits of love.

Words: John Cawood (1775 - 1852)

- ³ Let not the world's deceitful cares the rising plant destroy, but let it yield a hundred-fold the fruits of peace and joy.
- Oft as the precious seed is sown, thy quickening grace bestow; that all whose souls the truth receive its saving power may know.

Tune: BELMONT William Gardiner (1770 - 1853)

Remain **STANDING** for the Gospel.

The Gospel of Christ | Page 442

All Alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke 8. 4 - 15.

All Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

The Gospeller This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

All Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Remain **STANDING** for the Creed, all reciting together.

The Nicene Creed | Page 354

Please be **SEATED.**

Address by the Cathedral Missionaries

We listen to Devanand and Crishna share their experience in their mission work.

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya

Welcome and Announcements

All STAND.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All STAND.

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace.

Blessed are the peacemakers: they shall be called children of God.

We meet in the name of Christ and share his peace. cf Matthew 5. 19

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.

Preparation of the Table Hymn at the Offertory

At this time an offering will be received for the ministries of the Cathedral. Thank you for your generosity. All join in singing the hymn.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'Come unto me and rest; lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast:'
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn and sad; I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.

- I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 'Behold, I freely give the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live.'
 I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
- ³ I heard the voice of Jesus say, 'I am this dark world's light; look unto me, thy morn shall rise, and all thy day be bright.' I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

Words: H. Bonar (1808 - 89)

Tune: KINGSFOLD English traditional melody

All say

Offertory Prayer | page 357

Please be **SEATED**

Prayers for Mission Work

Intercessor

We know that God answers those who call out to him day and night. Let us call out to God, our Father, for the needs of the global Church.

For the Church on mission in the world, that we may be reminded that each of us is a mission. May our faith in Jesus Christ send us forth to give of ourselves and build life-giving relationships. We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For missionaries, saints and martyrs, men and women of faith

who witness to the Gospel in all areas of the world, that their example of love and mercy will guide the Universal Church in

missionary discipleship. We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For faith communities in the farthest frontiers, especially

those living and ministering in the areas supported by the mission work of our Diocese, that through us, God will secure the rights of His chosen ones, and see to it that justice is done

for them speedily. We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor For this local community of faith, to make disciples through

witness to the love of Jesus, that we always begin with prayer, the soul of mission, as we reach out to the peripheries of our

community. We pray to the Lord.

All Lord, hear our prayer.

Intercessor Lord, we would grow with you

and bring forth fruit that is pleasing to you. Fed by your living water

giving sustenance to others Lord,

we would grow with you.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The Preparation for Communion | Page 361

The Consecration | Page 363

The Communion | Page 368

Communicants are requested to leave space on either side of them when they receive Communion.

While seated, all join in singing the hymn.

Hymn at the Communion

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me; see, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

Come home, come home; ye who are weary come home; earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, O sinner, come home!

- ² Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me? Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me?
- ³ Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing, passing from you and from me; shadows are gathering, death's night is coming, coming for you and for me.
- ⁴ O for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!

 Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me.

Words: William Thompson (1847 - 1909)

Tune: THOMPSON

William Thompson

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

All sing.

Gloria in Excelsis | Page 371

The Blessing
The Presbyter

Help us to aspire to become the good soil in which an abundant harvest may flourish.

Help us to be a voice for those who are rarely heard; to face our own challenges, whatever they may be, with inspiration and courage.

And the blessing of God almighty,

† the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

Amen.

All join in singing the hymn at the closing.

Hymn at the Closing

We have heard the joyful sound:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Spread the tidings all around:
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
Bear the news to every land,
climb the steeps and cross the waves;
onward! 'tis our Lord's command;
Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

- ² Waft it on the rolling tide, Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Tell to sinners far and wide: Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Sing, ye islands of the sea; echo back, ye ocean caves; earth shall keep her jubilee: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
- ³ Sing above the battle strife, Jesus saves, Jesus saves! By his death and endless life, Jesus saves. Jesus saves! Sing it softly through the gloom, when the heart for mercy craves; sing in triumph o'er the tomb, Jesus saves! Jesus saves!
- ⁴ Give the winds a mighty voice, Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Let the nations now rejoice – Jesus saves! Jesus saves! Shout salvation full and free Highest hills and deepest caves; this our song of victory, Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Words: Priscilla Owens (1829 - 1907)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All In the name of Christ, Amen.

Postlude

Grand Chœur

Théodore Salomé (1834 - 1896)

Prayer Requests & Announcements

Your prayers are requested for

- † God's healing hand on those who are unwell. Pray for an end to the pandemic.
- † restoration of peace between Russia and Ukraine.
- † all places in the world facing severe climatic conditions.
- † in the Diocese, The Home of Faith Church and the Revd Clietus Edward.
- † the Church of North India's Diocese of Lucknow and the Rt Revd Peter Baldev.
- † the Church of South India's Diocese of Madurai-Ramnad and the Rt Revd Marialouis loseph.

† in the Anglican Communion, the Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Middle East and the Most Revd Michael Lewis.

The Church covers Jerusalem, Iran, Cyprus and the Gulf. The Jerusalem bishopric was founded in 1841 and became an archbishopric in 1957. The Cathedral Church of St. George the Martyr in Jerusalem is known for its ministry to pilgrims.



Where do the ashes come from?

The ashes for Ash Wednesday come from burning the palms from the preceding year's Palm Sunday.

A box is kept at the entrance in which you can put palm crosses from previous years. Ashes represent humans' mortality and low-liness compared to God, while also representing mourning and sorrow for your sins.

Ash Wednesday • 2nd March 2022

7 am Eucharist (said)
6.30 pm Eucharist (choral)
with imposition of ashes at both services.

• World Day of Prayer on Friday 4th March, 6.30 p.m.

World Day of Prayer is a global ecumenical movement led by Christian women who welcome you to join in prayer and action for peace and justice. This year's theme is God's promise to his people in exile in Babylon, found in the book of Jeremiah 29:11.

'I know the plans I have for you.'

The material for the service has been drawn up by the World Day of Prayer Committee of England, Wales & Northern Ireland.

In the midst of all the uncertainties we are living under due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the theme for 2022 emerges like a balm of confidence. It is an invitation to place our trust in God in times of suffering.

It will be wonderful to see many of you at the service on 4th March.

Birthdays

May God bless you abundantly.

Rita Kamal (20), Anjali Salvi (21), The Rt Revd Dr Samuel B. Joshua (21), Joshua Iype (22), William Adams (23), M. Chacko (26), Monica Moses (26)

Wedding Anniversary

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

Ashwini and Rohit Millns (21)

Bank details to make your online offering and payment of subscription.

Name: Society of St Thomas' Cathedral

Account no.: 917010054452406 Bank: Axis Bank Ltd IFSC code: UTIB0000004 Branch: Fort, Mumbai - 400 001

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The intercessory prayers have been sourced from the Archdiocese of Chicago.
Closing prayer has been sourced from St Mary's Church of England High School, Cheshunt,

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

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Contact the Presbyter for pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound. FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY. PLEASE SHARE THIS SERVICE BULLETIN WITH A FIREND. Website http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com • Subscribe to the Cathedral's YouTube channel





Literacy Centre, Kairee

Mid day meal