

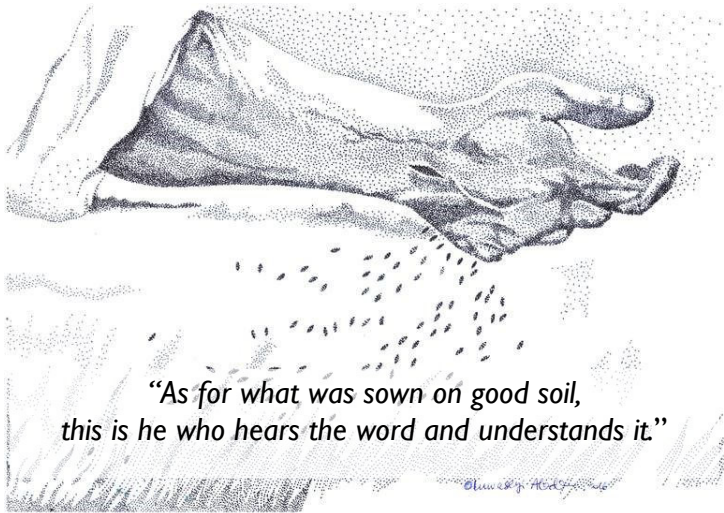


St. Thomas'
CATHEDRAL

*Mumbai • Estd 1718
The Church of North India*

A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

The Order of Service for Holy Eucharist



*“As for what was sown on good soil,
this is he who hears the word and understands it.”*

The Second Sunday before Lent

Sunday 12th February 2023 • 8.45 am

Welcome to St Thomas' Cathedral for this service

Reflections on the Parable of the Sower

“God tosses great handfuls of seed and then waits, as a farmer must for the rains to come, for the seeds to sprout, for the crop to return seed to the sower and bread to the eater.

Where do you and I spread God's Word, grace, love, forgiveness? Do we look out for some good soil so it will grow quickly? Or do we purposely let it fall in all kinds of places, to all sorts of people?

Is God's Word, which we have received, only for our well-prepared portion of God's world? Or is it instead especially for those places in which people live being choked by cares and suffering, where people's preparation for the Good News is shallow, for people whose hearts have been hardened by doubt and cynicism? What kind of seed sowers are we? And where and to whom do we sow?

Pre-Lenten Season

* * *

As the Church moves through the Christian Year from Epiphany to Lent she passes through three Sundays, which hold strange titles for modern ears: Septuagesima, Sexagesima, and Quinquagesima are in fact three Latin words which indicate how far away we are from Easter – that is, 70, 60 and 50 days respectively. From the 5th century these Sundays emerged as a preparatory cycle for Lent

Do not leave this service booklet behind. Take it home with you to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit.



This order of service is printed on sustainably-produced paper. Worship material has been drawn from the Book of Common Prayer; and <https://www.churchofengland.org>. Some material in this service is copyright: Common Worship © 2000 The Archbishops' Council and Common Worship. The reflections are excerpts from a post by the Revd Michael Merriman. The drawing on the front cover is by the Nigerian artist Oluwaseyi Adade.

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Order of Service

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

The Gathering

Music before the Service

Prelude Camille Saint-Saëns, *Op. 109, No. 2* (1835 - 1921)

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship

Introit

sung by the choir

Let the beauty of Jesus be seen in me,
All His wonderful passion and purity;
Oh, Thou Spirit divine,
All my nature refine
Till the beauty of Jesus be seen in me.

Words: Albert Orsborn (1886 - 1967)

Music: Tom Jones (1891 - 1978)

All STAND

Opening Responses

led by the Presbyter from the West Door

Presbyter

You sow your Word
Your Promises
Your Salvation
Your Self.

All

“Glory!” to your grace and mercy.

You save us from the stealing
The shallow
The choking thorns.

“Glory!” to your deliverance and power.

You make our lives good rich soil
ready for your seed

in you, we grow up and increase and yield

“Glory!” to your goodness and faithfulness.

All sing

Hymn at the Procession | # 257

Awake, my soul and with the sun v.v. I to 4 & II

Tune: TRURO (# 420)

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 hymns can be found in **The English Hymnal**.

All say together

The Collect for Purity | **page 350**

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the day | **page 440**

Read by the Presbyter

Old Testament Reading | **page 440**

Genesis 3:9 - 19

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

At the end of the reading This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Sung by the choir to a chant by Barnby

Psalm 24: 1 - 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**

2 Corinthians 11:19 - 31

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

At the end of the reading This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All STAND and join in singing

Gradual Hymn

**Almighty God, your Word is cast
like seed into the ground;
now let the dew of heav'n descend
and righteous fruits abound.**

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

³ **Let not the world's deceitful cares
the rising plant destroy,
but let it yield a hundredfold
the fruits of peace and joy.**

Continued

**⁴When'er the precious seed is sown,
life-giving grace bestow
that all whose souls the truth receive
its saving power may know.**

Words: John Cawood (1775 - 1852)

Tune: DUNFERMLINE (# 64)
Scottish Psalter, 1615

The Gospel of Christ | **page 442**

St. Luke 8:4 - 15

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleuia.

Gospeller

The Lord be with you.

All

And with thy spirit.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke.

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**

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All **STAND**

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Celebrant

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.

All

and also with you.

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

Preparation of the Table

*At this time an offering will be received for the ministries of the Cathedral.
Thank you for your generosity.*

All join in singing

Hymn at the Offertory

**What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!**

² **Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged,
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness,
take it to the Lord in prayer.**

Continued

³ **Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge –
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee;
thou wilt find a solace there.**

Words: Joseph Scriven (1819 - 1886)

Tune: CONVERSE
Charles Converse (1832 - 1918)

All say

Offertory Prayer | **page 357**

Please be seated

While seated, all sing

Invocation

**Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer,
thy wings shall my petition bear,
to Him whose truth and faithfulness
engage the waiting soul to bless;
And since He bids me seek His face,
believe His word, and trust His grace,
I'll cast on Him my every care,
and wait for thee, sweet hour of prayer.**

Words: William Walford (1772 - 1850)

Music: William Bradbury (1816 - 1868)

The Intercession | **page 358**

The Preparation for Communion | **page 361**

The Consecration | **page 363**

The Communion | **page 368**

While seated, we sing

Hymn at the Communion | # 327

Once only once, and once for all

Tunes: ALBANO

The Thanksgiving | *page 371*

All STAND and sing

Gloria in Excelsis

The Presbyter

The Blessing

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.

All sing **Amen.**

All join in singing

Hymn at the Closing | # 552

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word

Tune: MONKLAND (# 532)

Dismissal

From the West Door the Presbyter says

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Postlude

Toccata Gordon Young (1919 - 1998)

Birthdays this week

*“Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.
Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him and he will do this.”*

Psalm 37:4, 5

Rhea John (12), Mayon Pastala (15), Rachel Joseph (16)

Notices

- The Presbyter will be out of town on 17th and 18th of this month. For pastoral care please contact the Revd Arpana Rangayya.
- Lent this year begins with **Ash Wednesday** on 22nd February. There will be two services: 7am - Eucharist (*said*) and 6.30pm - Eucharist (*choral*). There will be imposition of ashes at both the services.
- Every year 3rd March is observed as the **World Day of Prayer**. There will be a service at 6pm service in the Cathedral. All are welcome to attend.
- Voluneers are needed to pray over the prayer requests which come in on a daily basis. These are supplications made by those who visit the Cathedral during the week. This ministry was done faithfully by the late Mrs. Rajathi Moses and more recently by Mr. Benoy Abraham. Those inclined towards this ministry, approach the Presbyter after the service.
- The Cathedral choir is in urgent need of singers. If you are interested, please drop in for practice after service.
- Please do remember to take this booklet home with you and not leave it behind.

*The flowers in the Sanctuary this morning
are placed in loving memory of their brother
David Robert
by his sisters
Hephzibah, Ruth and Monica.*

† **THE WORLD** This week, our prayers are first for all those in Turkey and Syria following two large earthquakes and hundreds of aftershocks. The death toll has passed 11,500 so we can assume a hundred times that number will suffer some effects, relatives worldwide, rescue workers, aid agency staff trying to muster and distribute resources, workers trying to restore power and supplies, and a huge clean-up effort to come. Amid the devastation and grief, we pray people will be able to pause and acknowledge God's presence and find their strength in His power and love for their journey ahead. • We continue to pray for a path to peace for Ukraine and a desire for peace in Russian leadership. • We grieve the findings in the downing of Malaysian Airlines Flight MH17 in 2014, with Russian leadership implicated, and pray that the close of the investigation will bring some resolution and subdue not heighten the grief of those whose relatives were killed.

† **OUR COUNTRY** In her speech when presenting the Union Budget the Finance Minister spoke of "...a prosperous and inclusive India, in which the fruits of development reach all regions and citizens." Pray that the fruits of economic growth percolate to the poorest of the poor in our country. Pray for all those whose decisions affects the lives of many.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** Later this week the Church commemorates Martin Luther on his death anniversary, (18th February). Remembering Luther's role in the Reformation should bring us back to what the Reformers wanted to put at the centre of every person's life, which is a simple trust in Jesus Christ. • In the *Anglican Communion* for The Episcopal Church in the Philippines and the Most Revd Brent Alawas.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** We remember with thanksgiving the ministry of two missionaries this week. The 19th century Scottish Presbyterian missionary, Alexander Duff (commemorated 12th February) was a pioneer of Christian education in India and a foremost leader of the world missionary movement of his day. • The 18th century Lutheran evangelist Christian Frederick Schwartz (*commemorated 13th February*) had a profound influence in South India. He served for 11 years at Tranquebar. We thank God for His faithful servants • The Diocese of Barrackpore and the Rt Revd Subrata Chakrabarty • The Diocese of East Kerala and the Rt Revd V. S. Francis.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for the Marathi congregation in Mulund and the Revd Ulhas Devkule. Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in providing leadership to our Diocese.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** For our Lay Leaders and Altar Guild. • For God's comforting presence with all senior citizens and their care providers. • For all pupils preparing for their public examinations.



The World Day of Prayer

“I Have Heard About Your Faith” ~ *Ephesians 1: 15 - 19*

World Day of Prayer is celebrated on the first Friday of March each year to encourage Christian women to engage in personal prayer and lead communal prayer within their mission auxiliaries and associations. The origins of the World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century.

The theme this year is based on Ephesians 1:15-19, the letter sent to a faith community to express gratitude. Paul gave thanks to God for the Ephesians living out their love and faith, and prayed that they could see these three truths: the hope to which God has called the disciples, the riches of God’s glorious inheritance among the saints, and the immeasurable greatness of God’s power.

The *World Day of Prayer 2023* service has been put together by the ladies of the churches in Taiwan. The inter-denominational national committee led by YWCA includes representatives from other denominations (including the Catholic church) and church organizations.

ST. THOMAS’ CATHEDRAL

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

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