



# S<sup>t</sup> Thomas' Cathedral *Mumbai • Estd 1718*

*The Church of North India*

*A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion*



## ASCENSION SUNDAY

Sunday 24 May 2020

This is an abridged service bulletin to serve as an online aid to worship.  
The links to the hymns and choral music are indicated in red.

### |The Preparation & Gathering|

Opening Hymn ¶ All sing

“Hail the day that sees Him rise”

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, *Alleluia.*  
to his throne beyond the skies. *Alleluia.*  
Christ, the Lamb for sinners given, *Alleluia.*  
enters now the highest heaven. *Alleluia!*
2. There for him high triumph waits;  
lift your heads, eternal gates!  
he hath conquered death and sin;  
take the King of glory in!
3. Lord, though parted from our sight,  
far above the starry height,  
grant our hearts may thither rise,  
seeking thee above the skies.

Words: CHARLES WESLEY (1707 - 88)  
Music: Welsh hymn melody, LLANFAIR

### Opening Acclamation

Presbyter God has gone up with a shout,  
People **the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.** *Psalm 47. 5*  
Presbyter † In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
People **Amen.**  
Presbyter Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus  
Christ be with you.  
People **And also with you.**

### |The Word of God |

#### The Collect for the Day

Grant, we beseech Thee, Almighty God, that like as we believe Thy only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ to have ascended into the heavens; so we may also in heart and mind thither ascend and with him continually dwell; who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. *Amen.*

On the fortieth day there has from the late fourth century been a particular celebration of Christ's ascension. He commissions his disciples to continue his work, he promises the gift of the Holy Spirit, and then he is no longer among them in the flesh.

The ascension is therefore closely connected with the theme of mission. The arrival of the promised gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost completes and crowns the Easter Festival.

## The First Reading *Daniel 7.13 - 14*

I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

## Psalm 47

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pcn4SjZPE2I>

## The Second Reading *Acts 1. 11*

The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Spirit had given commandments unto the Apostles whom he had chosen: to whom also he showed himself alive after his passion, by many infallible proofs; being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God: and, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days hence. When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel? And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. And when he had spoken these things, while they beheld, he was taken up; and a cloud received him out of their sight. And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven, as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? This same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven.

## The Holy Gospel *St Luke 24. 44 - 53*

Jesus said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the Prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the Scriptures, and said unto them, Thus it is written, and thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead the third day: <sup>47</sup> and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. And ye are witnesses of these things. And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high. And he led them out as far as to Bethany, and he lifted up his hands, and blessed them. And it came to pass, while he blessed them, he was parted from them, and carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy: and were continually in the temple, praising and blessing God. Amen.

All recite **The Nicene Creed**

*I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible:*

*And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, through whom all things were made: Who for us men, and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man, and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And He shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose Kingdom shall have no end.*

*And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, and the Life of the world to come. Amen.*

## The Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya



## |The Sharing of the Peace|

*Presbyter* Jesus says: 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. If you love me, rejoice because I am going to the Father'. Alleluia!  
The peace of the Lord be always with you

*People* **And also with you.**

### Invocation

*"Sing hallelujah to the Lord"*

LINDA STASSEN (b. 1951)

## |The Prayers of the People|

*We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for*

† *the Universal Church,*

† *the nation and all who govern,*

† *the welfare of the world, especially in these times of great uncertainty and anxiety*

† *the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed.*

*We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church — the Body of Christ.*

## |The Liturgy of the Lord's Table |

*The Celebrant receives the Body and Blood of Christ on behalf of the people gathered online.*

*All those who are unable to receive are able to make a Spiritual Communion.*

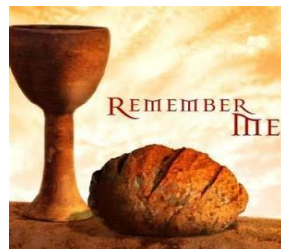
*The Book of Common Prayer instructs us that if we offer ourselves in penitence and faith, giving thanks for the redemption won by Christ crucified, we may truly*

*"eat and drink the Body and Blood of our Saviour Christ",*

*although we cannot receive the sacrament physically in ourselves.*

*The Church of which we are members is not defined by the walls of a building but by the Body of Christ of which we are members.*

*In making our communion spiritually, we are joining with Christians everywhere to be nourished by the one who tells us, "I am the Bread of Life."*



## |The Thanksgiving|

### Closing Prayer and Benediction *The Presbyter*

Christ our ascended King pour upon you the abundance of his gifts and bring you to reign with him in glory; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### Song at the Closing ¶ All sing

*"O clap your hands"*

O clap your hands, all you people;

shout unto God with a voice of triumph, for God has gone up, with a shout, the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.

Sing praise, sing praise to God, sing praise unto our King.

Sing praise, sing praise to God, for God is the King of all the earth. Hallelujah!

*Words: Psalm 47 • Music: WILEY BEVERIDGE & BILL SHEHEE*

Presbyter    Waiting expectantly, for the promised Holy Spirit,  
                  go in the peace of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.  
People        **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

~~~ Prayer requests and Announcements ~~~

Your prayers are requested for:

- † healing of all the nations of the world.
- † all those who have been rendered jobless in these uncertain times.
- † the safety of all migrant workers as they travel to their home states.
- † all who have been affected by the recent cyclone in Bengal and Odisha.
- † our City: God's healing hand on all those who are unwell. Pray that the number of cases may reduce and the pandemic be brought under control.
- † all who provide our essential services.
- † the Church worldwide as it ministers and provides pastoral care.
- † all members of the extended Cathedral family who are overseas
- † all doctors, nurses and healthcare workers especially for those in our community.
- † the relief work being carried out by the Diocese and all diocesan staff and their families.
- † the Church of North India's (CNI) Diocese of Nagpur and the Rt Revd Sharad Gaikwad.
- † the Church of South India's (CSI) Diocese of Madras and the Rt Revd Jayaraj George Stephen.
- † all members of the Anglican Communion around the world (today is Anglican Communion Sunday)  
the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Most Revd Justin Welby, and all primates and bishops,  
members of the Anglican Consultative Council,  
the Secretary General, the Most Revd Dr Josiah Idowu-Fearon,  
the staff at the Anglican Communion Office in London and the UN offices in Geneva and New York.

▪ **The Day of Pentecost** is on Sunday 31 May 2020.

Theme: *The gift of the Holy Spirit. (The preacher will be the Bishop of Bombay — The Rt Revd Prakash Patole)*

**Bank details** to make your online offering and pay your membership

SOCIETY OF ST THOMAS CATHEDRAL  
Account No.: 917010054452406  
Bank name: AXIS BANK LTD.  
Fort, Mumbai - 400 001  
IFS Code: UTIB0000004

~~~ Birthdays this Week ~~~

*May God bless you abundantly.*

Kora Ipe (25), Joshua Desai (26), Suganth Samuel (26),  
Swapnika Browne (28), Violet Truman (28)

~~~ Wedding Anniversaries this Week ~~~

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

Shantha & Ramani Kumar (26), Jaiboy & Leena Phillips (27)

*Almighty God,  
your ascended Son has sent us into the world  
to preach the good news of your Kingdom:  
inspire us with your Spirit  
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love  
that all who hear your Word  
may be drawn to you,  
And that your Kingdom may come  
on earth as in heaven  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*



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Pastoral visits and administering Communion to the house-bound will resume once lockdown is lifted.

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Website <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>