



Established 1718

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL, MUMBAI

The Church of North India • A member of the worldwide Anglican Communion

Choral Eucharist



The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday 17th December 2023

8.45 a.m.

Welcome

Welcome to St Thomas' Cathedral for this service

We are the mother church of the Diocese of Bombay in the Church of North India, a member of the worldwide Anglican Communion. Christian worship has been offered to God here for over 300 years. By worshipping with us today, you become part of that living tradition.

The basis for our worship is the *Book of Common Prayer*, our common liturgical heritage with Anglicans across the world (all churches descended from the Church of England). We are rooted in tradition but celebrate the richness and diversity of the Communion. Music and hymnody represent the best of the Anglican choral tradition.

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

The hymns can be found in *Hymns Ancient & Modern New Standard*



We kindly request that you do not take photographs, or video or sound recording in the cathedral at any time during services. You are welcome to take photographs at any other time.

You are encouraged to take this booklet home with you to reflect on the prayers and readings and as a reminder of your visit. If you do not intend to take this booklet with you, leave it in the box provided, so that it can be recycled.

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

Name: Society of St Thomas' Cathedral

Account no.: 917010054452406

IFSC code: UTIB0000004

Bank: Axis Bank Ltd

Branch: Fort, Mumbai - 400 001

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.

AN ADVENT REFLECTION

The third Sunday of Advent is known as Gaudete Sunday (“Rejoice Sunday.”) We are reminded to rejoice on this third Sunday of Advent. As we light the third pink-colored candle, we rejoice to know that God gives us salvation. No matter the challenges or difficulties we face, we must be joyful. We know that God is faithful and is in control of all creation. Because we hope in God, we have reason to rejoice.

The Gathering

Voluntary

Wachet auf! (Sleepers awake), BWV 645 Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685 - 1750

Welcome

All keep silence and prepare for worship.

All stand and join in singing the hymn.

Entry Hymn | # 342

Awake, awake : fling off the night!

Tune: TRURO # 143

All sit

The Presbyter says

May the grace and peace of God be with you.

All **And also with you.**

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Reader

Blessed are you, sovereign Lord, just and true:
to you be praise and glory for ever.

Your prophet John the Baptist was witness to the truth
as a burning and shining light.

May we your servants rejoice in his light,
and so be led to witness to him

who is the Lord of our coming kingdom,
Jesus our Saviour and King of the ages.

All

**Lord Jesus, light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near.**

**As Christmas grows closer day by day,
help us to be ready to welcome you now.
Amen.**

As the candle is lit, the choir sings

Sleepers, wake! the watch-cry peaeth,
while slumber deep each eyelid seaeth :
 awake, Jerusalem, awake!
Midnight's solemn hour is tolling,
and seraph-notes are onward rolling;
they call on us our part to take.
 Come forth, ye virgins wise :
 the Bridegroom comes, arise.
 Alleluia!
Each lamp be bright
with ready light
to grace the marriage feast to-night.

Words: P. Nicolai, 1556 - 1608

Tune: WACHET AUF

All say together

The Collect for Purity | **page 260**

During the Advent Season we sing the Kyrie instead of the Summary of the Law

Lord, have mercy. (3)
Christ have mercy. (3)
Lord have mercy. (3)

*From 'New English Mass'
Patrick Appleford, 1925 - 2018*

The Liturgy of the Word

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent | **page 302**

Read by the Presbyter

The Collect for the First Sunday of Advent | **page 296**

Old Testament Reading | **page 302**

Isaiah 35. 1 - 10

A reading from the prophesy of Isaiah.

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Psalm

4: 1 - 5

Sung by the choir to a chant by Monk

Cum invocarem

HEAR me when I call, O God of my righteousness * thou hast set me at liberty when I was in trouble; have mercy upon me, and hearken unto my prayer.

² O ye sons of men, how long will ye blaspheme mine honour, * and have such pleasure in vanity, and seek after lying?

³ Know this also, that the Lord hath chosen to himself the man that is godly; * when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

⁴ Stand in awe, and sin not; * commune with your own heart, and in your chamber, and be still.

⁵ Offer the sacrifice of righteousness, * and put your trust in the Lord.

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 303**

1 Corinthians 4. 1 - 5

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

At the conclusion of the reading the reader says

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

All stand and join in singing the gradual hymn

Gradual Hymn | **# 25**

The advent of our King

Tune: ST. THOMAS # 301, ii

*Remain standing for the Gospel
as the cantor sings the Alleluia and we respond.*

The Gospel of Christ | **page 304**

St Matthew 11. 2 - 10

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God. *cf Isaiah 40.3–5*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.
All **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

At the conclusion of the reading

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

Cantor O come to deliver us, and do not delay.
All **Maranatha, come Lord Jesus come.**

Remain standing for the Creed and all recite together

The Nicene Creed | **page 265**

All sit

Sermon

The Revd Avinash Rangayya, *Cathedral Presbyter*

Announcements

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

All stand

The Peace

The Celebrant offers a greeting of peace

Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord.
Peace in heaven and glory in the highest.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Members of the congregation greet one another.
Remain standing to sing the offertory hymn.*

*At this time the altar is set with the gifts of bread and wine and the
gifts of the people are gathered and presented. Thank you for your generosity.
All join in singing*

Hymn at the Offertory | # 27

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry

Tune: WINCHESTER NEW

See inside front cover for bank details to make your offering.

All say

Offertory Prayer | page 270

All sit

Advent Prose

Cantor

Refrain (all)

Pour down, O heavens, from above
and let the skies rain down righteousness.

You are my witnesses, says the Lord, and my servant whom
I have chosen, that you may know me and believe me. I my-
self am the Lord, and none but I can deliver, what my
hand holds, none can snatch away.

Edited by Stephen Cleobury

Kneel as able or remain seated

The Prayers of the People

Intercessor

In joyful expectation of his coming to our aid
we pray to Jesus.

Come to your Church as Lord and judge.

Help us to live in the light of your coming
and give us a longing for your Kingdom. Maranatha:

All

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to your world as King of the nations.

Before you rulers will stand in silence. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to the suffering as Saviour and comforter.

Place your healing hand on all who are unwell.

Break into our lives,

where we struggle with sickness and distress,

and set us free to serve you for ever. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come to us as shepherd and guardian of our souls.

Give us with all the faithful departed

a share in your victory over evil and death. Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Come from heaven, Lord Jesus,

with power and great glory.

Lift us up to meet you,

that with all your saints and angels

we may live and reign with you in your new creation.

Maranatha:

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

The General Confession & Absolution | *pages 275, 276*

The Consecration | *page 277*

The Communion | *page 284*

Proceed to the High Altar for receiving Communion.

During the administration of Communion, the choir sings:

How beautiful are the feet of them
that preach the gospel of peace.
And bring glad tidings
glad tidings of good things.

Words: Romans 10:15

Music: G. F. Handel, 1685 - 1759 (from 'Messiah')

All stand and say

Post Communion Prayer

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us
with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members
of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
O Lord our God,
make us watchful and keep us faithful
as we await the coming of your Son our Lord.
Amen.**

The Presbyter

The Blessing

Christ the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you,
scatter the darkness from before your path,
and make you ready to meet him when he comes in glory;
and the blessing of God almighty, † the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **All Amen.**

The choir sings

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord make His face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
and give you peace. Amen.

Words: The Book of Numbers 6:24 - 26

Music: Robert Carwithen, 1933 - 2022

Hymn at the Closing | # 139

Rejoice! the Lord is King

Tune: GOPSAL

From the West Door, the Presbyter says:

The Dismissal

As we await our coming Saviour,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

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

Postlude

Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (“Saviour of the nations come”), *BWV 661*
Johann Sebastian Bach

Please stay back after the service for a time of fellowship over a cup of coffee.
Introduce yourself to the Presbyter if you are worshipping with us for the first time.

Birthdays this week

*For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works,
which God prepared in advance for us to do.*

Ephesians 2:10

Florence Harbour (17), Bhanumathi Patil (18), Ramola Joshi (19),
Pritam Knox (19), Alka Tiwari (19)

Nativity Play



Our Sunday School children present the
Nativity play.

This morning 10:45 am, in the garden.

Please join us!

A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Let us journey in “heart and mind”
as we listen to the Nativity story
in carol, scripture and verse.

*Sung by the Cathedral choir
with guest singers*



This evening 6.30 pm

All are welcome.

Notices

- The Choral Eucharist on **Christmas Eve** will begin at **10.30 pm**. There will be singing of carols by choir and congregation starting 10 pm.
- **Christmas Day** choral Eucharist at **9 am**.
- This is the second announcement of the bans of marriage between Srinath Rajasekar (son of Srinivasan Rajasekar and Parthasarathy Santhana Meera) of All Saints' Church (CSI), Tuticorin and Evangeline Mary Kiruba Samuel (daughter of Samuel Joseph Jebaraj and Muthulaksmi Ramaswamy) of Thomas' Cathedral (CNI), Mumbai. The said marriage will be held at St. George's Cathedral, Chennai on 22nd January 2024.

Pray with us

† **THE WORLD** Our heartfelt prayers continue for lasting peace in the land of our Lord's birth. Pray for all who are peacemakers. Let us express our solidarity in thought and prayer this Christmastide with all who live in areas of war and conflict • As the United Nations climate change conference COP 28 concludes, we give thanks for an agreement to transition away from using fossil fuels, and the benefit for African people from promised funds to address tropical diseases.

† **OUR COUNTRY** In the wake of the recent Parliament security breach, pray for the safety of all parliamentarians, staff and security personnel.

† **THE WORLDWIDE CHURCH** Pray for all services during Advent and Christmastide. May we prepare our hearts to welcome the Christ Child • Ignatius of Antioch c. 107 AD (Bishop, theologian and martyr) is commemorated today • In the *Anglican Communion* - The Church of Papua New Guinea and the Right Reverend Nathan Ingen.

† **THE CHURCH IN INDIA** For the Diocese of Durgapur and the Right Reverend Sameer Khimla • For the Diocese of Rayalaseema (Andhra Pradesh) and the Right Reverend P. I. Vara Prasad . Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the selection of the Moderator of the Church of South India.

† **THE DIOCESE OF BOMBAY** This week for the Church of St Mary the Virgin and the Reverend Alfred Tiwade.

† **OUR CATHEDRAL** All senior citizens and those who are unwell. Pray for all care providers • Pray for all services during Christmastide and the many visitors who worship with us at this time • This week for the Cathedral sextons Johnson and Prakash, security guards, gardeners, dhobi and photocopyers.

ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

3 Veer Nariman Road, Fort, Mumbai – 400 001

Presbyter-In-Charge: The Revd. Avinash T. Rangayya

Telephone: (Vestry) **2283 9783, (R) 2207 1275, 98207 50090**

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

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY. PLEASE SHARE THIS SERVICE BOOKLET WITH A FRIEND.

Website <http://stthomascathedralmumbai.com>

Subscribe to the Cathedral's YouTube channel