

# SUNDAY MARCH



At any time in the service when we invite you to stand you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.

# PROCESSIONAL MUSIC

Great God, your love has called us here

Tune: St Petersburg, Melody from Dmitry Stepanovich Bortniansky (1752-1825), harmony from David Evans (1874-1948). TiS 375

#### **WFI COMF**

Priest:

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator, the love at our beginning and without end, in our midst and with us.

God is with us, here we find new life.

#### Liturgist:

We gather as a community of faith to make our Lenten journey. May God be with us in our letting go and in our living with hope.

Eternal Spirit, living God, in whom we live and move and have our being, all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you, to the very secret of our hearts and all that rises to trouble us.

Living flame, burn into us, cleansing wind, blow through us, fountain of water, well up within us, that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

P	lease	he	SPA	ted

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> ANZPB p.168

### **RECONCILIATION**

"Put away your former way of life, be renewed in the spirit, and clothe yourself with a new self, created according to the likeness of God." Ephesians 4:22-24

Kyrie (from Missa Brevis) Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

Silence.

God forgives and heals us.
We need your healing, merciful God:
give us true repentance.
Some sins are plain to us;
some escape us,
some we cannot face.
Forgive us;
set us free to hear your word to us;
set us free to serve you.

#### Priest:

God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself. Through Christ, God has put away your sin: approach your God in peace. <sup>2</sup>

# THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you.

Psalm 63:1a

Living Mystery, whose way is rarely ours, whose name cannot be bought or sold: lead us from justice without compassion and sacrifice without mercy to a love which nurtures and a grace without price. Amen. <sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ANZPB p.458

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Steven Shakespeare (adapt)

#### THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 55:1-9

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

# PSALM 63, VERSES 1-8

Chant: Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

O God, you are my God, and earnestly will I seek you.

My soul thirsts for you, my body yearns for you like a land that is dry and thirsty for water.

With this longing I have come before you in the sanctuary that I may see your power and your glory.

Your steadfast love is better than life itself therefore my lips will speak your praise.

As long as I live I will bless you and lift up my hands to pray in your name.

I shall be satisfied as with a rich and sumptuous feast and my mouth shall praise you with joyful lips.

When I remember you upon my bed and think of you in the watches of the night, how you have been my helper how I am safe in the shadow of your wings.

Please stand.

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#### THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Luke, chapter thirteen, beginning at verse one.

Be a lamp to my feet.

Luke 13:1-9

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Be a light for my path.

#### THE SERMON

#### THE ANTHEM

Just as I am Bob Chilcott

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: Let us pray for those far and near, people and places, powerful and powerless, all for whom we are concerned.

#### THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace who breaks down the walls that divide.

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te ariki ki a koutou **A ki a koe ano hoki**.

[The peace of God be always with you. And also with you.]

Please turn and greet those around you with peace. Please refrain from shaking hands.

#### THE OFFERTORY MUSIC 4

Our life has its seasons, and God has the reasons why spring follows winter, and new leaves grow, for there's a connection with our resurrection that flowers will bud after frost and snow.

so there's never a time to stop believing, there's never a time for hope to die, there's never a time to stop loving, these three things go on.

There's a time to be planting, a time to be plucking, a time to be laughing, a time to weep, a time to be building, a time to be breaking, a time to be waking, a time to sleep,

but there's never a time to stop believing, there's never a time for hope to die, there's never a time to stop loving, these three things go on.

There's a time to be hurting, a time to be healing, a time to be saving, a time to spend, a time to be grieving, a time to be dancing, a time for beginning, a time to end,

but there's never a time to stop believing, there's never a time for hope to die, there's never a time to stop loving, these three things go on.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020). Tune: Kotuku, Colin Gibson. AA 113

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> There is a donation bowl on the back table. For electronic giving option:

text stmatthew to 818 to make a fast one off or ongoing donation by credit card to St Matthew-in-the-City or

<sup>•</sup> download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.

#### THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

No one comes as a stranger to this holy table. All of us are honoured and expected guests. Each of us is invited to come as we are, holding nothing in our hands other than these humble offerings of bread and wine, the food and drink of ordinary life made with human hands from the gifts which lie in God's creation. <sup>5</sup>

Blessed be God forever.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Dorothy Mc Rae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days" p.122

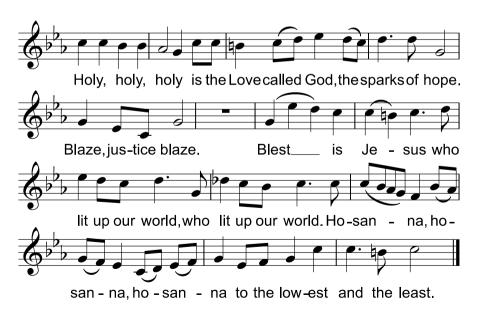
We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath.

We thank you, wise Sister, that you walk in cloud and fire with your lost and faithless people.

We thank you, Son of Heaven, that you empty yourself of might and glory and set your face towards the fickle crowd, the cruel empire, the faithful despisers.

We welcome you as God's own fool whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls.

Therefore, with all who follow your way with the traders and tax collectors, the soldiers and prostitutes, and all who caught a glimpse of glory in the humanity you shared, we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:



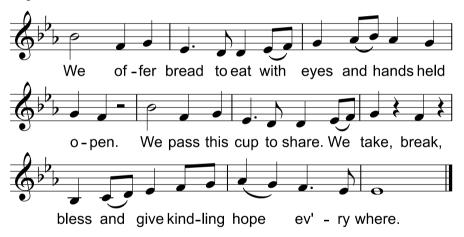
On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table, he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said: 'This is my body, which is given for you. Do this to remember me.'

In the same way after supper, he took the cup, saying: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.

Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.'

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.



We ask that your Holy Spirit fall upon us and upon these gifts that through these fragile, earthly things we may be the body of Christ.

We come in memory and hope, responding to your call and the promise that echoes from the dawn of all time.

May mind and heart be held by your self-giving love as we stand before the cross, approach the empty tomb and praise the one whose name is lifted high above all earthly power. Receive our broken offering through his all-powerful grace and bind us in communion with all who share your gifts; through Jesus Christ, in whom all ages and all the worlds are drawn into the ceaseless love of Creator, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen. 6

Please be seated.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kua akona nei tātou e to tātou Ariki, ka inoi tātou:

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi, kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tāu e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua, kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āianei he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara, me mātou hoki e muru nei, i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.
Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia; engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha, me te korōria, Āke, ake, āke. Āmine.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Steven Shakespeare

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the hope of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share the one bread.

We sing three times Taize "Within our darkest night":



#### THE INVITATION

Haere mai e te kahui a te Atua, tangohia enei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

Come, bringing your varied faiths and backgrounds, for all are welcome to share in this act of communion.

The bread will be brought to you – please stay seated in the pews. If you do not wish to receive the bread the priest will offer a blessing.

Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.

#### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Sicut cervus

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Living God,

when we are afraid, walk beside us. When we are empty, restore us. When we lack purpose, give us strength. For you meet us in the wilderness and, with Christ, you bring us home. Amen. 7

#### THE BLESSING

# **NOTICES**

Go now to live the gospel, go in peace.

Amen. We go to serve in love.

# RECESSIONAL MUSIC | VOLUNTARY

Allegro from 'Concerto del Signor Meck'

Johann G. Walther (1684-1748)

We invite you to **keep** this copy of the Service and take it home with you to share with another member of your family, or with a friend **OR put in a recycling bin provided at the back of the church**.

Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Jenny Blood (1932-2022)