



SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER
29



ORDINARY 26

2024

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,**

**Christ, our God, to you we raise
this our grateful hymn of praise.**

**For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,**

**Christ, our God, to you we raise
this our grateful hymn of praise.**

**For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,**

**Christ, our God, to you we raise
this our grateful hymn of praise.**

**For each perfect gift divine
to our world so freely given,
graces all of your design,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,**

**Christ, our God, to you we raise
this our grateful hymn of praise.**

*Words: Follitt Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917), adapted
Tune: Dix, arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889)
from a chorale by Conrad Kocher (1786-1872). TIS 314*

WELCOME

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: Let us give thanks
for the coming of God's reign of justice and love.

**Jesus Christ is good news for the poor,
release for the captives,
recovery of sight for the blind
and liberty for those who are oppressed.**

THE GLORIA

Sing prais - es to God, Cre -
at - ing Pres-ence, Spin - ner of star - dust bril-liant with light,
Paint - er of dark-ness, deep-er than night. All glo - ry to God.

Sing prais - es to God,
born of com-pas-sion, Heal - ing re - la-tion-ship, bless-ing the poor,
Spurned as a reb - el by peo-ple in power. All glo - ry to God.

Sing prais - es to God,
 Flame of the Spir-it, Dream-ing new vi-sions, sing-ing new songs,
 Bring - er of good news for which the heart longs.
 All glo - ry to God. All glo - ry to God

Words: Jenny Blood (1932-2022). Music: Michael CW Bell

FORGIVENESS

**E te Ariki kia aroha mai.
 E te Karaiti kia aroha mai.
 E te Ariki kia aroha mai.**

[Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy]

Silence

Holy one, look at our brokenness.
 All parts of the creation cry out for your healing and love.

**Come to us sacred one;
 show us the path to wholeness.
 Grow in us the humility
 to seek healing from the earth,
 and the courage to bring healing to each other.**¹

Priest: God forgives us, be at peace.

¹ *Ojibway prayer, Canada. Adapted by Anton Spelman.*

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Have salt in yourselves and be at peace with one another.

Mark 9:50

**God of the incarnation,
love becomes flesh
when hunger is fed, dignity restored,
and creation delighted in for its own sake.
May our prayers make a place for love to take shape,
a place rooted and grounded
for those who seek justice,
peace and the healing of the earth. Amen. ²**

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Esther.

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

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

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

**Join hands in the Spirit,
the one holy name,
you are love, and we your children,
one and the same.
All glory to the Spirit,
all praise to your name,
for your love unites us
in peace once again.**

² *Steven Shakespeare, adapted*

**Join minds in the Spirit,
the one source of life,
all are born in your image,
sparks of your light.
Oh joy that you call us
to love and forgive,
to trust beyond fear,
that in death we may live.**

**Join hearts in the Spirit,
the one holy peace,
your love is our union,
your touch our release.
Oh great heart! embracing
every creed, every race,
in gratitude we cry
at the gift of your grace.**

*Words: Radha Wardrop
Tune: Radha Wardrop, arr. Ian Render. AA 82*

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Mark,
chapter nine, beginning at verse thirty-eight.



Be a lamp to my feet.

Mark 9:38- 50

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Be a light for my path.

THE SERMON

THE SILENCE

REFLECTIVE MUSIC

Air (from Suite No. 3 in D)

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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.

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou.

A ki a koe ano hoki.

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

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

OFFERTORY HYMN *

**Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.**

* *During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's.*

For electronic giving options:

1. *to make a fast one-off, or ongoing, donation to St Matthew-in-the-City text **stmatthew** to **818**, or **scan this QR code**:*
2. *use the Tap-n-Go terminal on top of the donation box.*



**We who endanger, who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!**

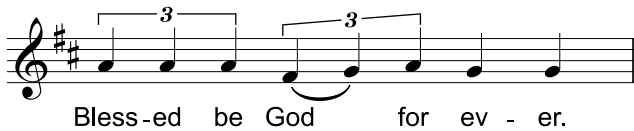
**Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,
health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.**

**God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ re-connect us,
using us gently and making us one.**

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
Tune: Tenderness, Colin Gibson. AA 143*

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Glory be to God who flows through all creation,
blessing us with gifts to share.



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Cantor *All*

The Spirit is here *All* God's hope is in us

Cantor *All*

Lift up your hearts *All* We lift them up to God

Cantor

Let us give thanks to the God of peace

All

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Life-giving God, your word speaks in the void,
calling into being things that are not,
inviting us to share your work of creation.

We thank you for the ages long of gathering stars and cooling earth,
of life evolving and waking eyes of wonder.

We thank you for the creatures with whom we share the world,
for their lives so different from our own and the richness they reveal.

We thank you for Jesus the Son,
formed from Mary's body and nurtured by her faith;
he walked the growing earth and proclaimed a fearless kingdom
of bird and lily, child and stranger, the beggar and the blind.

On the cross, Christ joined the labour of all creation's yearning;
And in his rising hallowed us all to bear the glory of God;
and sent the brooding Spirit to bring to birth a living hope.

Therefore, with all that has life through Christ
with animals and angels and all who hope for a new creation,
we share the song of love which sounds from all eternity:

4
Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One, God of po-wer and might

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.

2
Bless the One who comes in the pow'r of love.

3
Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na in the high - est!

We give thanks for our brother, Jesus Christ;
 who, on the night that he was betrayed,
 gathered with his 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
 Christ is present in touch and taste beyond all words.

Break the bread for free-dom. Pour the wine for jus-tice. Ce-le-brate this

meal for all the world, a meal of faith and hope, God's love, shared among us. 3

³ Words by Jenny Blood (1932-2022)

We ask that your Holy Spirit will fall upon us and upon these gifts so that these fragile, earthly things will be to us the bread and wine of life. ⁴

United in the power of love with all who stand for justice, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing and hon-our and glo - ry be Yours, here and
ev-'ry -where now and for - ev - er, A - men.

Please be seated.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**E to matou Matua i te rangi,
kia tapu tou Ingoa.**

Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga.

**Kia meatia tau e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite ano ki to te rangi.**

Homai ki a matou aianeī he taro ma matou mo tenei ra.

Murua o matou hara,

me matou hoki e muru nei,

i o te hunga e hara ana ki a matou.

**Aua hoki matou e kawea kia whakawaia;
engari whakaorangia matou i te kino:**

Nou hoki te rangatiratanga,

te kaha, me te kororia,

Ake, ake, ake. Amine.

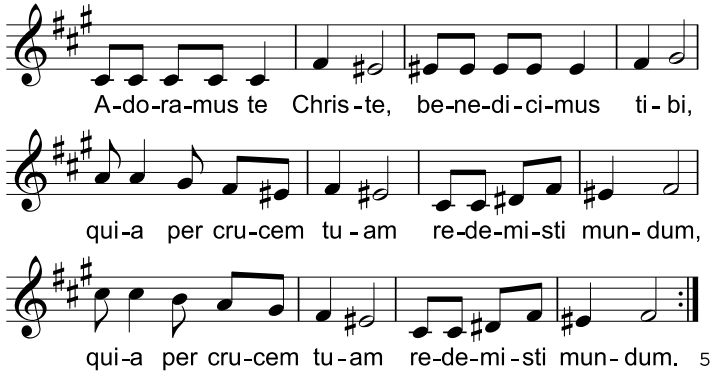
⁴ *Steven Shakespeare, adapted*

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

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

We sing three times:



A-do-ra-mus te Chris-te, be-ne-di-ci-mus ti-bi,
qui-a per cru-cem tu-am re-de-mi-sti mun-dum,
qui-a per cru-cem tu-am re-de-mi-sti mun-dum. 5

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.

*All are welcome to come and receive the bread and wine;
there are gluten free wafers, just ask the serving priest.*

*There is a chalice for dipping –
simply hold the bread in front of you to signify your choice.*

*If you do not wish to take communion
you may come forward for a blessing.*

*If the stairs are a barrier please sit in the front pews
and communion will be brought to you.*

Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.

Te Kapu o te Ora. The cup of salvation.

⁵ *We adore you, Jesus Christ, and we bless your holy name;
truly your cross and passion bring us life and healing.*

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Filled with a Spirit that calls us and the entire world beyond
what we ever thought was possible,
we leave this table
strengthened with food for the journey
and a vision of life as it can be;
one diverse family, living in justice and peace.

**Mystery of God,
heartbeat of the universe,
centre of spirited change and rebirth;
we glorify your ways:
the ways of dignity and justice,
the ways of love for all creatures,
the ways of caring for the earth.
Let us be simple in our needs,
showing compassion for our neighbour,
sharing generously what we have,
letting go our hurts and fears.
For in you we find peace, in you we find hope,
and in you we find courage, now and forever. Amen.** ⁶

THE BLESSING

May the soil beneath your feet connect you to the Earth;
may flowers in bloom connect your sense to the Earth;
may butterflies in flight connect your soul to the Earth;
and may God, the Creator,
Christ, the Cosmic One,
and the Spirit, the Life Giver,
bless you and connect you deeply to the Earth. **Amen.**

NOTICES

⁶ *Jenny Blood (1932-2022)*

FINAL HYMN

**For the healing of the nations,
God, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords.
To a life of love and action
help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us, Holy God, to freedom,
from despair your world release;
that redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase.**

**All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race or schooling,
dogmas breaking down your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span.**

**You, Creator-God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind;
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find.**

Words: Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

Tune: Tantum ergo, Fred Kaan (1929-2009). CAHO&N 186

Deacon from the rear of the Church:

Go now for the Spirit of God is alive in the land.
Amen. We go in the power of love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

'Gravement' from Fantasia in G major, BWV 572

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

MUSIC NOTES

Bach wrote his four orchestral suites during his Leipzig years. The third, in D major, was probably premiered at one of Bach's Collegium Musicum concerts at Zimmermann's Coffee House in 1730 or 1731. A century and a half later, the German violinist August Wilhelmj arranged the second movement, a serenely floating Air, for solo violin and strings (or keyboard). He marked the solo part "auf der G-Saite" (on the G-string, as a passionately expressive tour-de-force), inadvertently giving it the name it has endured popularly ever since.

Bach's great G major Fantasia for organ (entitled 'Pièce d'Orgue' in the manuscript) was composed between 1703 and 1707, during the composer's residence in Arnstadt. It was here, at the beginning of his career, that Bach's music was found to be too full of "wonderful variations and foreign tones". Certainly, the Fantasia is strikingly dissonant, with its constant chains of suspensions. The breadth of the five-part polyphonic writing and the richness of the sonorous harmonies makes it one of the grandest of all Bach's organ compositions.

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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