



SUNDAY
MARCH

14



LENT 4

2021

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Great God, in Christ you call our name
and then receive us as your own
not through some merit, right, or claim,
but by your gracious love alone.
We strain to glimpse your mercy seat
and find you kneeling at our feet.

Then take the towel, and break the bread,
and humble us, and call us friends.
Suffer and serve till all are fed,
and show how grandly love intends
to work till all creation sings,
to fill all worlds, to crown all things.

Great God, in Christ you set us free,
your life to live, your joy to share.
Give us your Spirit's liberty
to turn from guilt and dull despair
and offer all that faith can do
while love is making all things new.

Words: Brian Wren (b. 1936)

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

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:

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. ¹**

Please be seated.

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*

Nine-Fold Kyrie

Ronald Dellow (1924-2004)

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. ²

¹ ANZPB p.168

PSALM 107:1-16

Chant by Edward Bairstow (1874-1946)

'O give thanks, for the Lord is gracious:
God's steadfast love endures for ever.'

So let the people say whom the Lord has redeemed,
whom the Lord has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
and gathered out of the lands, from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Some went astray in the desert wastes
and found no way to a city where they could dwell.

They were hungry and thirsty and their soul was fainting within them.

Then they cried to you O Lord in their trouble
and you rescued them from their distress.

You led them by a straight path
until they came to a city where they could live.

Let them thank you O Lord for your steadfast love
for the wonders that you do for us.
For you satisfy the thirsty and fill the hungry with good things.

Some lay in darkness and gloom prisoners fast bound in fetters of iron,
because they had defied the words of the Lord
and spurned the counsel of God most high.

So their hearts were subdued by hard labour,
they stumbled with no one to help them.

Then they cried to you O Lord in their trouble,
and you rescued them from their distress.

You brought them out of darkness and gloom
and broke their fetters in pieces.

Let them thank you O Lord for your steadfast love
for the wonders that you do for us.

For you break open doors of bronze and smash the bars of iron.

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Numbers.

Numbers 21:4-9

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

Thanks be to God.

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

We are God's work of art,
created in Christ Jesus to do the good things
God created us to do from the beginning.

Ephesians 2:10

God of light and love,
you are in the world
not to condemn but to redeem;
may we know your love in our lives,
so that through us
others may know your light and love. Amen.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

CHOIR:

Out of darkness let light shine!
Formless void its maker obeyed;
at his word, by his design,
sun and moon and stars were made.

Still his brightness shines abroad,
darkened lives his light have known;
all the glories of our God
in the face of Christ are shown.

ALL:

New creation's second birth
bids eternal night depart;
as the dawn of dawn on earth
morning breaks within the heart.

Out of darkness let light shine,
as it shone when light began;
earth be filled with light divine,
Christ be light for everyone!

*Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926), adapt.
Tune: The Call, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958),
adapt. by E. Harold Geer (1886-1957). TIS 552*

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to John, chapter three, beginning at verse fourteen.



Be a lamp to my feet.

John 3:14-21

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Be a light for my path.

THE SERMON

THE ANTHEM

God so loved the world

John Stainer (1840-1901)

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.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN ³

Arahina, e lhowa,
To pononga i te ao:
Whakakitea mai tou kaha,
Puritia ra au e koe
A whangainga, A whangainga
Ki te kai e ora ai,
Ki te kai e ora ai.

Whakahekea mai te puna
Hei horoi mo te hara.
Tukua ko te kapua mura,
Hei arahi i ahau;
Tenei hoki, Tenei hoki,
Whakakahangia e koe,
Whakakahangia e koe.

Whakamamakia e koe
To te mate takiwa;
Whakawhitia to pononga
I nga wai o Horano;
Whakauria, Whakauria
Ki te wa o Kenana;
Ki te wa o Kenana! ⁴

*Words: Traditional Maori Version
Tune: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932). TiS 569*

³ During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's.
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
- download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for **St Matthew-in-the-City**.

⁴ Guide me as a pilgrim and feed me;
wash me and lead me, strengthen me;
allay my fears and bring me safer to Canaan across the Jordan.

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. ⁵

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Cantor *All*

God meets us here. God's Spir - it is with us.

Cantor *All*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to God.

Cantor

Let us give thanks to the Ho - ly One.

All

It is right to offer thanks and praise.

⁵ Dorothy Mc Rae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days" p.122

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 of-fer bread to eat with eyes and hands held
o-pen. We pass this cup to share. We take, break,
bless and give kind-ling hope ev' - ry where.

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 āi**anei
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, ake. Āmine.

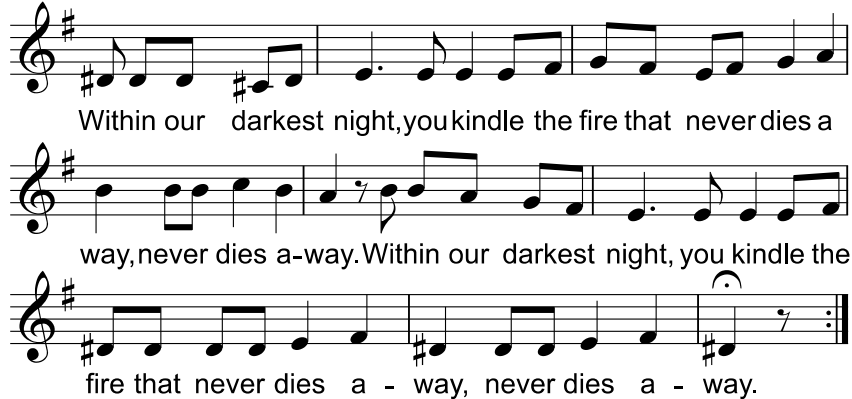
⁶ *Steven Shakespeare*

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":



Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies a
way, never dies a-way. Within our darkest night, you kindle the
fire that never dies a - way, never dies a - way.

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 only will be distributed from two stations in front of the altar.

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

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

Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.

Te Kapu o te Ora. The cup of salvation.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

The Crown of Roses

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-1893)

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

⁷ *Jenny Blood*

FINAL HYMN

Lead us, our Creator, lead us
through this world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
now and to eternity
here possessing every blessing,
if our helper you will be.

Saviour, by your grace restore us -
all our weaknesses are plain;
you have lived on earth before us,
you have felt our grief and pain:
tempted, taunted, yet undaunted,
through the desert you did go.

Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with holy peace;
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cease:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
ever shall our joys increase.

*Words: James Edmeston (1791-1867), adapted
Tune: Mannheim, melody from a chorale by Friedrich Fillitz (1804-1876). TiS 580*

Deacon from the rear of the Church.

Go now to live the gospel, go in peace.

Amen. We go to serve in love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

March on a Theme by Handel "Lift up your heads", Op.15

Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

*You are invited to keep this copy of the liturgy and take it home with you
to share with another member of your family, or with a friend.*

Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell

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