



THIRD sunday of EASTER

april 18 2021

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

We love the place, O God, in which your honour dwells: the joy of your abode, all earthly joy excels.

We love the house of prayer: for where Christ's people meet; our risen One is there to make our joy complete.

We love the word of life, the word that tells of peace, of comfort in the strife and joys that never cease.

We love the holy feast where, nourished with this food, by faith we feed on Christ, his body and his blood.

We love to sing below of mercies freely given, but O, we long to know the triumph-song of heaven.

O Jesus, give us grace on earth to love you more, in heaven to see your face and with your saints adore.

> Words: William Bullock (1798-1874), revised by Henry W. Baker (1821-1877) Tune: Quam Dilecta, Henry Lascelles Jenner (1820-1898) Hymns for Today's Church 558

WELCOME

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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:

In this Easter season, we celebrate that the powers of despair and destruction do not have the final word; that new life can still break out; that love is stronger than death; and that nothing can stop the life, hope, and determination of Easter people.

God of grace, we come today with Easter joy, seeking to be a people of resurrection. Gather us together now, form us into a community of your people, and reveal to us the Holy One. Amen.

THE GLORIA



Praise the Holy Name,

whose word speaks all things into being, who created the forces of the universe and the laughter of children. Praise the Holy Name!



Praise the living God:

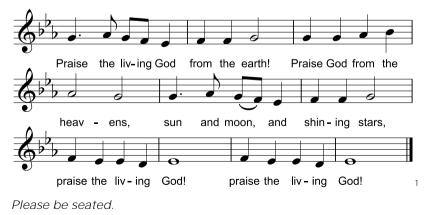
clouds and storms and ocean currents, fish in the sea and creatures of the deep, animals and cattle, insects and birds, praise the living God!



Praise the Holy Name

who did not rely only on angels and messengers

but came among us in person, whose living presence saves us! Praise God's Holy Name!



¹ Words: Brian Wren (adapted)

A NEW COMMANDMENT

Hear the teaching of Christ: A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another as I have loved you.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

See what love God has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are.

1 John 3:1

Risen Jesus, we thank you for your greeting **"peace be with you":** the shalom of God, deep lasting peace that brings inner calm. Give us this peace which passes all understanding. Amen.²

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 3:12-19

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

THE GRADUAL HYMN

Jesus Christ is risen today in this South Pacific land, this the resurrection day, in these islands where we stand; morning sky in autumn light, shining forth for our delight.

² Johansen-Berg in "Bread of Tomorrow", adapted

Jesus Christ is risen today over valley, crag and hill, countryside and sandy bay, bush and forest, deep and still; summer's gone, but leaves are gold, bright creation we behold.

Jesus Christ is risen today in the city's busy street, many cultures passing by, finding friendship when they meet; come and share the wondrous feast, peace and love will be increased.

> Words: Jenny Blood Tune: Ratisbon, melody from Johann Gottlob Werner's 'Choralbuch', Leipzig, 1815 harmony from William Henry Havergal (1793-1870). WOV 140(ii)

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Luke, chapter twenty-four, beginning at verse thirty-six.



Luke 24:36b-48

This is the Gospel of Christ.



THE SERMON

ANTHEM

Ye choirs of New Jerusalem

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

Silence

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Liturgist:

Let us stand to affirm our resurrection faith.

We believe in the power of Christ to overcome all deaths, deaths in us and death in the world. We believe in life which rises in freedom and carries us in joy towards grace beyond our imagining, calling our spirits to soar in freedom with wings of hope borne high in the wonder of Easter Day. The gift of life will never be taken from us. The costly life of God will be our company for ever and for ever. ³

Please be seated.

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.

³ Dorothy McRae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days"

THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace. The peace of God be with you all.

In God's justice is our peace.

E te whanau, Christ calls us to live in unity. We seek to live in the Spirit of Christ.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN 4

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me, gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free. Now, because your love has touched me, I have love to give away; now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply!

Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed, harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God; spiced with humour, laced with laughter – flavour of the Jesus life, tang of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond belief.

⁴ 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 you can download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.

Take whatever I can offer – gifts that I have yet to find, skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind, things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be: take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

> Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020) Tune: Talavera Terrace, Colin Gibson. AA 127

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

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



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is right and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creating God. In you all things are good.

You love us into being, you form us in your image and breathe into us the breath of life.

When we turn away, and our love fails,

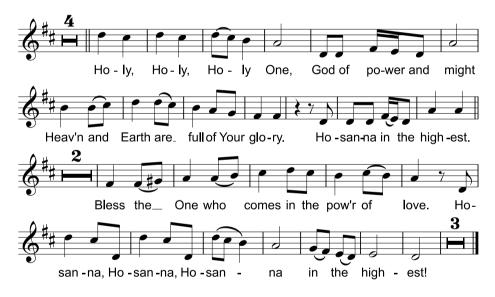
your love remains steadfast.

Your love delivers us from captivity,

and brings us into lands flowing with milk and honey.

You set before us the way of life.

And so, with the people of earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name as we join their unending hymn:



Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus.

By his baptism and death

you give your church birth into a living hope.

In Christ, risen from death,

you make a new covenant with us

by water and the Spirit, and deliver us into freedom.

We are now your resurrected people, the living body of Christ. declaring life, hope and justice.

On the last night Jesus shared a meal with his friends, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat: this is my Body which is given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

When the supper was over he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said,

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new Covenant,

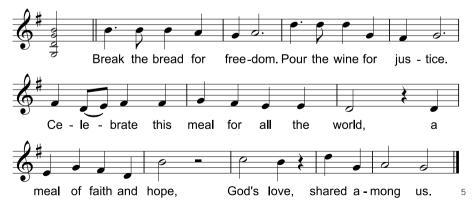
which is shed for you and for all,

for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,

do this for the remembrance of me.

On the third day he was revealed to the women and was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of bread.



⁵ Words by Jenny Blood

And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus the Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, and we praise you and we bless you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

By your spirit make us one with Christ,

one with each other, and one in loving service to all the world, until all feast at your heavenly banquet.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, ake. Āmine.

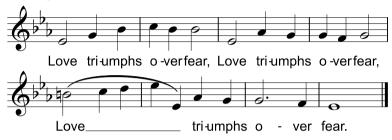
⁶ Richard Fabian, St Gregory of Nyssa, San Francisco, adapted

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:



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.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Love divine

Howard Goodall (b. 1958)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Risen Christ, whom we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands; the word of life in whom our joy is complete: send us out to declare your truth, your unshakeable faith in the world you love. Amen.⁷

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

Where the light of Easter Day shines through our life, then faith can say, Christ is living, Christ is moving, Christ is changing all the world. Here is God's good kingdom!

Where the yeast of love will rise, **bubbling with God's new enterprise,** Christ is living, Christ is moving, Christ is working through the world. **Here is God's good kingdom!**

Where the harvests ripen in peace, where all the sounds of gunfire cease, Christ is living, Christ is moving, Christ is healing all the world. Here is God's good kingdom!

⁷ Steven Shakespeare

Where the Spirit's flame burns bright, where there is health and truth and light, Christ is living, Christ is moving, Christ will resurrect the world. Here is God's good kingdom!

> Words: Shirley Murray Tune: Crusader, Jillian Margaret Bray (1939-2018). HioS 153

Deacon from the rear of the Church: Alleluia. Alleluia. Go now for the Spirit of God is alive in the land. Amen. We go in the power of love. Alleluia, alleluia.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude on "O Filii et Filiae"

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

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.

Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell

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