

# Saint Matthew-in-the-City

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2010

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (*Low Sunday*)

## *Processional Hymn*

Be thou my guardian and my guide,  
and hear me when I call;  
let not my slippery footsteps slide,  
and hold me lest I fall.

The world, the flesh, and Satan dwell  
around the path I tread:  
O save me from the snares of hell,  
thou quickener of the dead.

And if I tempted am to sin,  
and outward things are strong,  
do thou, O God, keep watch within,  
and save my soul from wrong.

Still let me ever watch and pray,  
and feel that I am frail,  
that if the tempter cross my way  
yet he may not prevail.

*Words: Isaac Williams 1802-65*  
*Music: Abridge Isaac Smith 1734-1805*

## *Welcome*

In these days of Eastertide, 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.

Chaos and darkness, violence and brokenness  
**Where is our hope and salvation?**

God is here, unfolding from each of us.  
**Let us rejoice in song and word and deed.**

This is what God asks of you: to act justly, to love tenderly, and to walk humbly upon our earth.

*Together we pray*

**God of grace, in whom we live and move and dance for joy, guide our steps through the complexities of life; widen our vision that our sight be not limited by what we see, nor our wisdom by what we know, nor our love by what we can accept. Amen.**

## *The Gloria*

Glorious are you, Mystery of Life,  
essence of all creation.  
You are the symphony of stars and planets.  
You are the music of the atoms within us.  
You are the dawn on mountain peaks,  
the moonlight on evening seas.  
Forest and farm, the rush of the city,  
everything is embraced in your love.



We re-joyce as we sing our gra-ti-ude.

Glorious are you, O Jesus Christ,  
Cosmic love in human flesh.  
You graced the smallness of time and place  
to teach us to dance to the music.  
You walk on our seas and heal in our streets.  
You make your home in our lives,  
revealing that cross and resurrection  
are one on the road to freedom.



We re-joyce as we sing our gra-ti-ude.

Glorious are you, O Spirit of Truth,  
wisdom and breath of our being.  
You are the wind that sweeps our senses.  
You are the fire that burns in our hearts.  
You are the needle of the inner compass,  
always pointing to true North,  
guiding us on the sacred dance  
into the Mystery of Life.



We re-joyce as we sing our gra-ti-ude.

*Words: Joy Cowley*  
*Music: MCW Bell*

## *The Summary of the Law*

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**

Let us pause in silence, being aware of God within,  
between and beyond us.

*Please sit or kneel for private prayer*

*We sing:*

**Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison**

*Together we pray*

**Gracious God, give us the wisdom to hold what we  
need, grace to let go of those things that we can do  
without, and a vision of your breadth, height, and  
depth that will challenge our smallness of heart,  
and bring us humbly together.**

*Priest*

Spirit of God hold us, Spirit of God move us, Spirit  
of God burn within us, so that we may light up the  
world with your love.

## *The Sentence and Prayer of the Day*

Christians should give more offense, shock the world  
far more than they are doing now. Christians should  
take a stronger stand in favour of the weak rather  
than considering first the possible right of the strong.

*Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

*Together we pray.*

**In our yearning for peace may we realise that it  
needs our active commitment to come true.  
Let us be like Doubting Thomas and Dietrich  
Bonhoeffer, cautious about accepting what people  
in power want us to believe.  
May we reach for a deeper source of truth when  
choosing to reject the comfortable in favour of  
right action. Amen**

## *The First Reading*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

*Acts 5:27-32*

Hear what the Spirit might be saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

## *The Gradual Hymn*

**Come to our land, come to our hearts  
Spirit of peace, Spirit of truth,  
bring in the spring, the hope and the green,  
Spirit of growth and Spirit of youth.**

**And all our people will sing together:  
Wairua Tapu, holy your name,  
there's one great Spirit in all creation,  
one great Spirit of God.**

**Come to our land, come to our hearts  
Spirit of life, breath of new birth,  
teach us to care for the water and air,  
nourish the seed and cherish the earth,**

**Come to our land, come to our hearts  
Spirit of bush, Spirit of bird,  
speak to the soul of Aotearoa  
joy in your world, and joy in your Word,**

*Words: Shirley Murray  
Music: Haaremai, Colin Gibson*

## *The Gospel*

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to John, chapter  
twenty, beginning at verse nineteen

**Shine on our pathways.**

*John 20:19-31*

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**May we hear wisdom**

## *The Sermon*

## *Reflective Music*

## *The Prayers of the People*

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

*To the words:* Lord hear us

*Please respond:* **Lord hear our prayer**

*Please stand for the Greeting of Peace*

## *The Peace*

Peace be with us all

**With justice comes peace**

Let us build peace together

**And change our world**

*Please turn and greet those around you with peace*

## *The Offertory Hymn*

**We are an Easter people,  
ours is an Easter faith,  
the yeast is rising in our hearts  
our wine has vintage taste.  
Christ is risen; Christ is risen,  
risen in our lives.**

**We are an Easter people,  
ours is an Easter faith,  
our tears are freed to flow and heal  
our shattered hopes and hearts.  
*Christ is risen . . .***

**We are an Easter people,  
ours is an Easter faith,  
our fears have died, we rise to dream,  
to love, to dance, to live.  
*Christ is risen . . .***

*Words: Bill Wallace  
Music: Alive, Alison Carey*

### *The Preparation of the Gifts*

Glory be to God who flows through all creation,  
blessing us with gifts to share. May we learn to give  
generously, receive graciously and judge not those  
who do neither.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

### *The Great Thanksgiving*

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

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

Let us give thanks to the God of peace  
**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Here today, through bread and wine, we renew our  
journey with Jesus and his disciples. We renew our  
unity with one another, and with all those who have  
gone before us in this place. We renew our  
communion with the earth and our interwovenness  
with the broken ones of the world.

We take bread, symbol of labour, symbol of life. We  
will break the bread because Christ, the source of  
life, was broken for the excluded, exploited and  
downtrodden.

We take wine, symbol of blood, spilt in war and  
conflict; symbol too of new life. We will drink the  
wine because Christ, the peace of the world,  
overcomes violence.

Now bread and wine are before us, the memory of  
our meals, our working, our talking; the story that  
shapes us: the grieving and the pain, the oppressor  
who lies deep in our own soul, the seeking and the  
loving. And we give thanks for all that holds us  
together.

Therefore, with the disciples, and with all the faithful  
we proclaim your great and glorious name, for ever  
praising you and singing:

**Holy, holy, holy One, God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna  
in the highest.  
Bless the One who comes in the power of love.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna, in the highest.**

On the night before he died Jesus took bread; when  
he had given thanks he broke it, gave it to his  
disciples and said:  
*Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you; do  
this to remember me.*

After supper he took the cup; when he had given  
thanks he gave it to them and said:  
*Drink this, all of you, for this is my blood which  
brings new life; do this as often as you drink it, to  
remember me.*

**Break the bread for freedom. Pour the wine for  
justice. Celebrate this meal for all the world – a  
meal of faith and hope, God's love, shared among  
us.**

May the bread that we eat bind us across the world  
with those who can not. May the wine we drink  
fortify our resolve to share with those who have not.  
May the power of love move us to work with those  
who know it not. May the justice of Jesus become a  
reality that all people can eat, drink and be sustained  
by. May that reality come, and may we be a part of  
its coming.

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

**Blessing, and honour and glory be yours, here and  
everywhere, now and forever. Amen.**

*We sit or kneel for the Lord's Prayer in Maori*

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

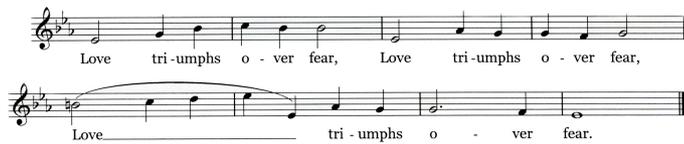
**E to matou Matua i te rangi kia tapu tou Ingoa.  
Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga. Kia meatia tau e  
pai ai ki runga ki te whenua, kia rite ano ki to  
rangi. Homai ki a matou aianei he taro ma matou  
mo tenei ra. Murua o matou hara, me matou hoki  
e muru nei, i o te hunga e hara ana ki a matou.  
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.**

### *The Breaking of the Bread*

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

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

*We sing three times:*



Music: MCW Bell

### The Invitation

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

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

Te Taro, o te Ora. *The Bread of Life*

Te Kapu o te Ora. *The Cup of Salvation*

### 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. Amen.

*Together we pray.*

**Eternal Spirit,  
Life-giver, Pain-bearer, Love-maker,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo  
through the universe!  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples  
of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.  
With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another,  
forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power  
that is love, now and for ever. Amen.**

### Notices

### The Blessing

#### Final Hymn

**Live into hope of captives freed,  
of sight regained, the end of greed.  
Th'opressed shall be the first to see  
the year of God's own jubilee!**

**Live into hope the blind shall see  
with insight and with clarity,  
removing shades of pride and fear  
a vision of our God brought near.**

**Live into hope of liberty,  
the right to speak, the right to be,  
the right to have one's daily bread,  
to hear God's word and thus be fed.**

**Live into hope of captives freed  
from chains of fear or want or greed.  
God now proclaims our full release  
to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

*Words: Jane Parker Huber, 1976*

*Music: Truro, Thomas Williams'*

*Psalmodia Evangelica, 1789*

*Liturgist 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