

Saint Matthew-in-the-City

Sunday 18th April 2010

3rd Sunday of Easter

Processional Hymn

The day of resurrection!
earth, tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness
the Passover of God:
from death to life eternal,
from earth up to the sky,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil
that we may see aright
our Christ in rays eternal
of resurrection light;
and listening to his greeting
may hear, so calm and strong,
his own 'All hail' and, hearing,
may raise the victor's song.

Now let the heavens be joyful
and earth her song repeat,
the whole world shout in triumph
her living Christ to greet;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ our God is risen,
our joy that has no end.

*Words: John of Damascus d. c. 754
tr. John Mason Neale 1818-66 alt
Music: Ellacombe, Melody from
'Mainz Gesangbuch', 1833*

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

Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me so I send you."

John 20:21

Together we pray.

It is often impossible to understand why life happens as it does. May we have the courage to live our lives intentionally; to persist with a dynamic faith that brings wisdom, that grace and love may flow between and beyond us. Amen.

The First Reading

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Act 5:27-32

Hear what the Spirit might be saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn

**Whakarongo ki te kupu
No ko mai, no Kawari;
Motu ke nga pukepuke,
Koara pu te ao katoa.
Oti rawa, Oti rawa!
Tana whakaoranga.
Oti rawa, Oti rawa!
Tana whakaoranga.**

**Oti rawa! Ae te hari
O te kupu ora nei;
Tini aua pai a Ihu
Tenei ra te puta nei.
Oti rawa, Oti rawa!
Tenei kia maharatia.
Oti rawa, Oti rawa!
Tenei kia maharatia.**

**Mutu pu nga whakarite
O te ture tawhito;
Rite pu i a Ihowa
Ana korero o mua.
Oti rawa, Oti rawa!
Koia tenei haringa.
Oti rawa, Oti rawa!
Koia tenei haringa.**

**Tena, e nga Herapima,
Tatou nei ka waiata
Ki a Ihu, te Ariki
O te rangi, o te ao.
Hareruia! Hareruia!
mona i kohurutia.
Hareruia! Hareruia!
mona i kohurutia.**

Traditional Maori Hymn

Music: Converse, Charles Crozat Converse 1832-1918

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

Improvisation

Michael CW Bell

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

**Companions let us pray together
in this place affirm our faith.
God who made us is here among us
We stand together in God's grace.
*We are whanau we are one,
brothers, sisters of the Son.
We are reaching for our freedom
the prize that Christ has won.***

**The broken Christ stand here among us,
shares our suffering and our pain,
in breaking bread we find empowerment
to live in aroha again.
*We are whanau . . .***

**The risen Christ brings light and laughter
celebrates the life we share;
the poured out wine of Christ's self-giving
inspires us to reach out and care.
*We are whanau . . .***

**Now let us sing to God who loves us
and accepts us as we are.
Go out from here and live that message
proclaim our oneness near and far.
*We are whanau . . .***

*Words: David Clark & Witi Ihimaera
Music: David Hamilton*

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:

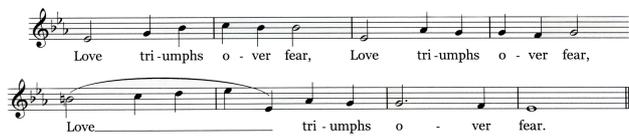
E to matou Matua i te rangi kia tapu tou Ingoa. Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga. Kia meatia tau e pai ai ki runga ki te whenua, kia rite ano ki to te rangi. Homai ki a matou aianei he taro ma matou mo tenei ra. Murua o matou hara, me matou hoki e muru nei, i o te hunga e hara ana ki a matou. Aua hoki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

Eat this bread

Taizé

Refrain:

**Eat this bread, drink this cup;
come to him and never be hungry.
Eat this bread, drink this cup;
trust in him and you will not thirst.**

Ohana i runga rawa

'Hosanna in the Highest' David Hamilton

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

**God gives us a future, daring us to go
into dreams and dangers on a path unknown.
We will face tomorrow in the Spirit's power,
we will let God change us
for a new life now.**

**We must leave behind us scars of yesterday,
for God's new beginning is a better way.
Fear and doubt and habit must not hold us back:
God gives hope and insight,
and the strength we lack.**

**Holy Spirit, teach us how to read the signs,
how to meet the challenge of our troubled times.
Love us into action, stir us into prayer,
till we choose God's life, and
find our future there.**

Words: Elizabeth J. Smith 1956

Music: Camberwell, John Michael Brierley 1932

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