



Saint Matthew-in-the-City

Sunday 20th March 2011

2nd Sunday in Lent

Processional Hymn

God is here! As we God's people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of God's Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need for grace;
here are table, font and pulpit,
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence as in speech,
here in newness and renewal
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold,
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.

God of all, of Church and creation,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive.
We, who cannot live without you,
we adore you, we believe.

Words: F Pratt Green 1903-2000
Music: Blaenwern, W P Rowlands 1860-1937

Source: *TiS* 590

Welcome

Liturgist

There are many people suffering in our world. They cry out for help. Yet we are bound by our own worries, frenetic lifestyles, and lack of vision. We are bound too by our own suffering. We don't believe we can help.

To light even one candle is to say to the darkness of oppression: 'I beg to differ.' To light a candle is to claim the power to make a difference.

May the sparks of the God that is Love
Ignite our passion for change

Offering the light of hope
To all who bravely differ.

Song of Zaccheus

Joy Cowley

Always, our darkness contains a seed of light
that struggles to grow into brightness.
Evil so hungers for good that often
it will consume itself in its longing.
For light is the truth of all existence.



**Holy One, I have always known
the bright sparks of your presence in me.
You shine like a star in my nights,
creating in me a great longing
to once more, be one with you!**
[Refrain]

**But I am small, O God, one of your own,
and I do not see over the crowds.
I'll do anything to attract your attention,
work, pray, climb the tree of yearning
and recklessly crawl out on its branches.**
[Refrain]

**When at last you are sitting at my table,
and my entire house is aglow with you,
I ponder on the mystery of my darkness.
Would I have recognized my need for you
if my life had been as bright as the day?**



The Words of Scripture

"Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you.
Bless those who curse you."

"God is love and those who abide in love abide in

God.”

“There is no fear in love.”

Spirit of hope, search our hearts.

Let us pause in silence, listening for grace.

Please sit or kneel

Silence

We sing *three times*

Meditative (♩ = 60)

6 *p* night, we has - ten, in dark ness, to seek for the liv - ing wa - ter,

10 *pp cresc* on - ly our thirst light us on - wards, *mf* on - ly our thirst lights us on - wards. *fine* By

Priest

We know that we are the ones who are divided and we are the ones who must come back together. May we learn love, compassion, and honour that we may heal the earth, each other, and ourselves.

May we know the grace of forgiveness and offer that grace to others. Let the fires of hope be rekindled among us, giving light and warmth to the world. Amen.

The Sentence and Prayer for the Day

Why not go out on a limb? Isn't that where the fruit is? *Frank Scully*

Together we pray

**Driver of our inward spirit;
bless us with the vision to burst our bonds
of caution, contentment and conformity
that we might explore the margins of faith
outside our comfort zone
and become its fruits.**

The First Reading

A reading from the Book of Genesis

Gen 12:1-4a

Here ends the reading.

Gradual Hymn

**He came singing love
and he lived singing love;
he died, singing love.
He arose in silence.
For the love to go on
we must make it our song:
you and I be the singers.**

He came singing faith . . .

He came singing hope . . .

He came singing peace . . .

*Words: Colin Alexander Gibson 1933-
Music: Singing Love, C A Gibson*

Source: AA 59

The Gospel Reading:

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter seventeen beginning at verse one.

Matt 17:1-9

Before

Shine on our path - ways

This is the Gospel of Christ

After

May we hear wis - dom

The Sermon

Reflective Music

Geistliches Lied

Brahms

Intercessions

The Peace

We commit ourselves to live in peace
as we work for it

To kindle peace within, between and beyond us

For the peace of Jesus is an active peace
Building, bridging and always dreaming

We share a sign of peace

Offertory Hymn

**Love will be our Lenten calling,
love to shake and shatter sin,
waking every closed, cold spirit,
stirring new life deep within,
till the quickened heart remembers
what our Easter birth can mean.**

**Peace will be our Lenten living
as we turn for home again,
longing for the words of pardon,
stripping off old grief and pain,
till we stand, restored and joyful,
with the Church on Easter day.**

**Truth will be our Lenten learning:
hear the Crucified One call!**

**Shadowed by the Saviour's passion,
images and idols fall,
and, in Easter's holy splendour,
God alone is all in all.**

Words: E Smith
Music: 'Picardy, French trad. carol melody
17th-18th from Chanson Populaires des Provinces 1860

Source: TiS 684

The Great Thanksgiving

In free time

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a Cantor part on the left and a Congregation part on the right. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is common time (C).
 System 1: Cantor: Hope is a - mong us; Congregation: We are God's light
 System 2: Cantor: Shine then with free-dom; Congregation: Into all the cor - ners of the world
 System 3: Cantor: Lest fear overcome the brilli - ance; Congregation: Of life and light and li - ber - ty

From the beginning life has been shaped by despair, struggle, and triumph. Oppressive forces have repeatedly tried to destroy the hope of the marginalized and vulnerable. The forces of wealth and privilege, armies and theology, have beaten down upon the poor. Yet hope has never been extinguished. When all seems lost the embers stir back into life, and the light of justice ignites again. For this we give deep and heartfelt thanks.

Shortly before Jesus died he gathered around him his closest friends... women and men who had shared in his despair, struggles, and triumphs. They met in a small upstairs room. The forces of power and self-interest were closing in. All their excitement, anticipation, and hopes were about to be put to death on a cross. In this moment Jesus took bread and wine, and likened it to his own life, broken and poured out for others.

In doing so he invited them and us to share in the brokenness of our world, and to share too in the healing of our world through self-giving love. In bread broken and wine poured out he initiated a new community. An upside-down community which believes that loving is more important than winning, doing what is right is more important than doing what is safe, and setting people free is more important than trying to control their lives. It is a community marked by justice and hope.

Therefore with all who have struggled, dreamed, and triumphed we sing:

The musical score is in G-flat major (two flats) and common time. It features a vocal line and an organ accompaniment starting at measure 5.
 Lyrics: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly is the Love called God, the sparks of hope.
 5 Blaze, jus - tice blaze (organ) Blest is Je - sus who lit up our world who
 10 lit up our world Ho - san - - na, ho -
 12 san - na, ho - san - na to the low - est and the least.

And so we remember on the night before he died Jesus took bread; when he had given thanks he broke it, gave it to his friends 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

With this bread and wine we remember the dream of God, and the call of God.

The musical score is in G-flat major and common time.
 Lyrics: 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' - rywhere.

Recalling the promise of tomorrow we wait out the long night of struggle, Remembering our brother Jesus, our sister Mary, and all our spiritual forbears, Rejoicing in the bonds of solidarity and the unquenchable Divine Energy, we take, eat and drink, knowing that the Spirit of God is here, within and among us, in simple food, in simple grace, calling us to freedom's banquet.

O Candle of calm and peace, lending your beauty to our darkened corners:

Come and share your halo of light with us, to comfort and to guide.

O Star of the darkened sky, you lead us if we choose to follow,

By night and by day, seeing and not seeing, we journey towards the truth.

O Sudden Flare, you explode like a burst of match flame in the darkness:

Come and illumine our plans, protests, and petitions for justice.

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.

With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est night, you kin - dle the fire that nev - er dies a - way, nev - er dies a - way. With - in our dark - est

The Invitation

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

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*
God so loved the World *John Stainer*

Prayer after Communion

I believe that God is in me as the sun is in the colour
and fragrance of a flower – the Light in my darkness,
the Voice in my silence. *Helen Keller*

I feel the suffering of millions. And yet, when I look
up at the sky, I somehow feel that everything will
change for the better, that this cruelty too will end,
that peace and tranquillity will return once more.
Anne Frank

May the blessing of light be on us, light without and
light within. *Celtic*

We remain seated 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 aiane 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.**

Notices

Blessing

May Divine Wisdom hold us in the palm of Her hand
And breathe into us gently Her life-giving Spirit.

May the light of the new dawn break over us
Bringing insight, fresh courage and hope.

And may the fierce passion of the Love that is God
Send us out like sparks to set the world on fire.

Final Hymn

**Lead us, our Creator, lead us,
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing ever blessing
if our helper thou wilt be.**

**Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe:
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.**

**Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.**

*Words: James Edmeston, adapted 1791-1867
Music: Mannheim, from Chorale by F Filitz 1804-76*

Source: TiS 580

Liturgist from the rear of the Church:

Let us dream together, pray together, work together,
to build one world of peace and justice for all.
Amen. We go in the light and hope of Jesus.

Organ Voluntary

Voluntary *Composer*

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.

*Reproduced with permission under license #A19675,
LicenSingOnline*