



SUNDAY
MARCH
31



LENT 4

2019

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 cleansing sign
of life through Christ the Word,
where with the name divine
we seal the child of God.**

**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:

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

Kyrie (from Holy Communion Rite A) Peter Aston (1938-2013)

Silence.

¹ ANZPB p.168

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

PSALM 32, VERSES 1-8

Chant: Elvey

Blessed are those whose offences are forgiven,
whose sin has been put away.

Blessed are those to whom the Lord imputes no guilt
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I held back from confessing my sin
my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

For your hand was heavy upon me day and night
I was dried up and withered,
as it were by drought in summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you
my guilt I did not hide.

I said, 'I will confess my sins to the Lord'
and so you forgave the wickedness of my sin.

² ANZPB p.458

Therefore let all those that are faithful
pray to you in time of trouble
when great flood-water rises,
it shall not come near them.

You are a place to hide me in,
you will preserve me from trouble,
you will surround me with shouts of deliverance.

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:
everything old has passed away;
see, everything has become new!

**Reconciling God,
as you open your arms to us,
may we open our hearts and minds to you
and to our neighbour,
that we may become a community of reconciliation,
Amen.**

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Joshua.

Joshua 5:9-12

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

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL 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: Elizabeth J. Smith (b. 1956)

*Tune: Picardy, French traditional carol melody from
'Chansons Populaires des Provinces de France', 1860. TiS 497*

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Luke,
chapter fifteen, beginning at verse one.



Be a lamp to my feet.

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Be a light for my path.

THE SERMON

THE ANTHEM

Blessed is he that considereth

Michael Wise (1648-1687)

Silence

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

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his glorious name!***

**Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
If we are silent, even stones cry out.**

Lift high the cross...

**Jesus, you wept to see our human strife,
teach us compassion for each human life.**

Lift high the cross...

**Peace was your plea and peace your loving theme
let peace be our passport, peace a living dream.**

Lift high the cross...

**Great is the cost of walking on this road,
to follow and suffer with the Son of God.**

Lift high the cross...

**Worlds to be born and children yet to be
come, take up this song into eternity.**

Lift high the cross...

*Words: Shirley Murray based on George William Kitchin (1827-1912)
and Michael Robert Newbolt (1874-1956)*

Tune: Crucifer, Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947). AA 87

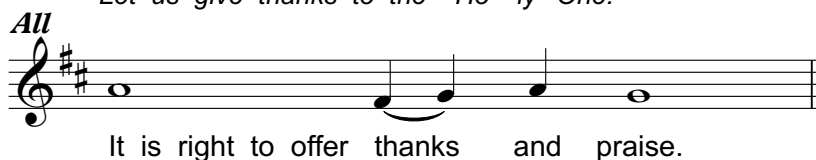
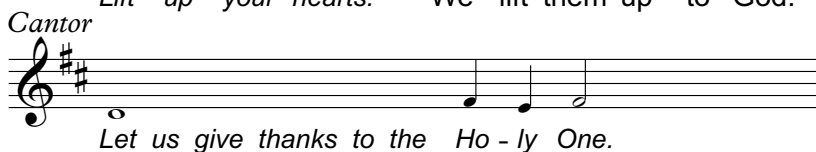
³ During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's;
for electronic giving option: text **stmatthew** to **818** to make a fast one
off or ongoing donation by credit card to St Matthew-in-the-City.
Or you can download the PUSHPAY app from Apple Store or Google
Playstore and search for St Matthew-in-the-City.

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. ⁴

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



⁴ Dorothy Mc Rae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days" p.122

We thank you, desert Mother,
for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh
quickenened by the Spirit's breath.

We thank you, wise Sister,
that you walk in cloud and fire with your lost and faithless people.

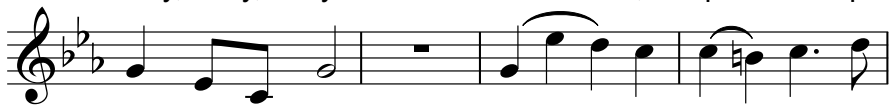
We thank you, Son of Heaven,
that you empty yourself of might and glory
and set your face towards the fickle crowd,
the cruel empire, the faithful despisers.

We welcome you as God's own fool
whose cross brings to nothing the violence of the world
and reveals another wisdom outside the city walls.

Therefore, with all who follow your way
with the traders and tax collectors,
the soldiers and prostitutes,
and all who caught a glimpse of glory in the humanity you shared,
we worship God's own holiness revealed in sweat and tears:



Holy, holy, holy is the Love called God, the sparks of hope.



Blaze, jus-tice blaze. Blest is Je - sus who



lit up our world, who lit up our world. Ho-san - na, ho -



san - na, ho - san - na to the low-est and the least.

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.'

We ask that your Holy Spirit
will fall upon us and upon these gifts
that these fragile, earthly things
may be to us the body and blood of our brother, Jesus Christ.

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.

Therefore 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.⁵

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.

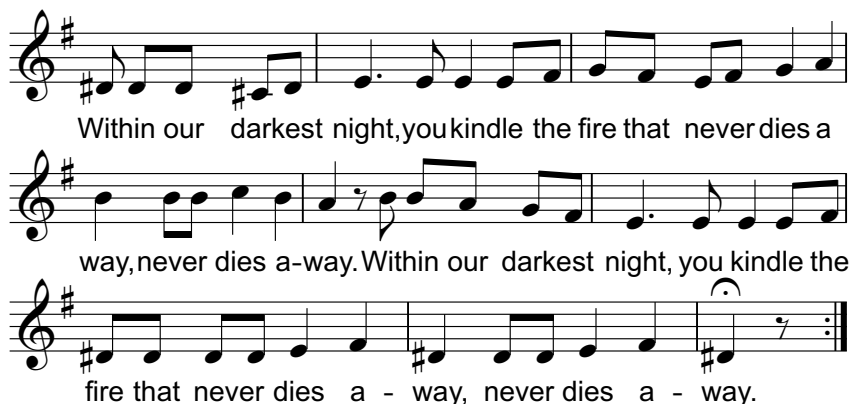
⁵ *Steven Shakespeare*

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":



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

Almighty and everlasting God *Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)*

O for a closer walk with God

Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1954)

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.⁶

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

**Here in the busy city
now let the Church be seen
where lesser gods are worshipped
in money and machine;
where news is but sensation,
the Good News hardly heard –
now let the Church take action
in living out the Word!**

⁶ *Jenny Blood*

**In policies and planning,
the Church be there to speak
to moderate the powerful,
to argue for the weak;
where law must sit in judgment
and love is little known,
there at the crisis centre
the Christ concern be shown.**

**Here in the busy city
God walks on every street
in generous or greedy,
the honest or the cheat,
and daily we must offer
the good that goes unpriced
with vigour and with vision
the lifestyle of the Christ.**

*Words: Shirley Murray
Tune: Wolvercote, William Harold Ferguson (1874-1950). TiS 595*

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

Sinfonia from "The Lord is my light", HWV255

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

*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

Hymns reproduced with permission under license A-609859, One License