

Saint Matthew-in-the-City

Sunday before Lent

Sunday, 6th March 2011

Processional Hymn

Praise, my soul, the wondrous beauty
to discover everywhere:
painted sunset, morning glory,
cooling rain, and breezes fair.
Praises singing, praises bringing,
for the wonder that we share.

Praise, my soul, the sense of myst'ry,
knowledge we have yet to find,
much awaiting our discovery,
life's details of every kind.
Praises singing, praises bringing,
for the questing, searching mind.

Praise, my soul, the deep compassion
freely offered, freely giv'n,
care that reaches past the barriers,
care that takes the stranger in.
Praises singing, our lives bringing,
joined with all we share a part.

Praise, my soul, the sense of justice,
seeing others equally,
full respect for rights and honour,
full respect for dignity.
Praises singing, our lives bringing,
t'wards a whole humanity

Words: © S Kearns 2008

Music: Praise my soul, John Goss 1800-80

TiS 134

Welcome

The Liturgist begins

These stone walls, pillars, arches, and windows, have stood in graceful splendour for over 100 years. Here beauty, aroha, music, and thought combine. Here the transformative love we call God is honoured and lived.

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.

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-joice as we sing our gra-ti-tude.

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-joice as we sing our gra-ti-tude.

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-joice as we sing our gra-ti-tude.

Joy Cowley; Michael CW Bell

Self-Reflection

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

Gracious God, give us the wisdom to hold to 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

The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock.

Matt 7:25

Together we pray

In ever shifting landscape may we be a church built on bedrock of love, compassion and justice. Amen.

The First Reading

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

Deut 11:18-21, 26-28

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

**The majesty of mountains,
the sovereignty of skies,
the regal rocks that arch above
where veils of vapour rise,
are gifts of God, the Lord of love,
the worshipful, the wise.**

**The running of the river,
the surging of the sea,
the grass that grows high on the hill,
the flower and fruiting tree,
our Saviour sends us, by whose will
all creatures came to be.**

**The glory of the Godhead,
the Spirit and the Son,
the Father, faithful down the days:
to them, the Three-in-One,**

**while life shall last, be perfect praise
and highest honour done!**

Words: Michael Perry (based on Psalm 104)

Music: Christopher Norton

Source: AA 139

The Gospel

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Matthew, chapter seven beginning at verse twenty-one
Praise and glory to God

Matt 7:21-29

This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to Christ, the Word.

The Sermon

Reflective Music

I waited for the Lord

Mendelssohn

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

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

**Wisdom far beyond our knowledge,
Word of endless mystery,
God, in whom is comprehended
all that was, is now, will be,
you have set us free to wander,
world on world, through time and space,
haunted by the hope of heaven,
measured by your constant grace.**

**Unimaginable lover,
faithful to eternity,
God, fulfilling and indwelling
all that was, is now, will be,
we can never stray beyond you,
loving Presence, you are here:
called to join your great adventure,
forth we go to find you there.**

**Beating heart of all creation,
first and final unity,
God who calls all things together,**

**all that was, is now, will be,
we have heard your distant music,
shared your dream of harmony:
now we go as reconcilers,
makers of community.**

**Focus of our search for meaning,
truth in our perplexity,
God the One by whom we measure
all that was, is now, will be,
centre of our heart's devotion,
magnet of our questing mind,
spirit's birth and soul's companion,
journey's end in you we find.**

*Words: Colin Gibson
Music: Coronation Road, Colin Gibson*

Source: HIOS 157

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 of the new
covenant which is shed for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sin; 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.**

Remain standing for the Lord's Prayer in Maori

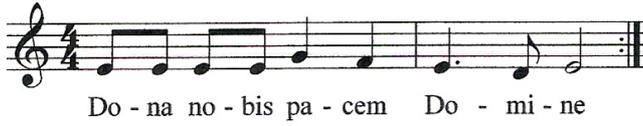
Kua akona nei tatou e to tatou Ariki, ka inoi tatou:

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

We sing each phrase three times



Do - na no - bis pa - cem Do - mi - ne

Give to us your peace O Jes - us Christ

Taizé, Jacques Berthier 1923-94

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

Blest are the poor in heart *Walford Davies*

Panis Angelicus *Deering*

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

The Recessional Hymn

**Imagination of the heart
will rise on soaring wings of song;
will elevate our bland desires,
transcend our human wrong.**

**The spirit will inspire, define
the love that gives this passage worth,
the pain we gather on the way,
the trust of love's new birth.**

Words: Anon

Music: Saffron Walden, Arthur Henry Brown 1830-1926

Source: TiS 584

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

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*