



SUNDAY  
JANUARY

31  
2021



EPIPHANY 4

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Praise the one who breaks the darkness  
with a liberating light.

Praise the one who frees the prisoners,  
turning blindness into sight.

Praise the one who preached the Gospel,  
healing every dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.

Praise the one who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the one who drove out demons  
with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the one who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand.

From this well comes living water,  
quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ who suffered in our place.

Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.

Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
seeing what our God has done.

Praise the one redeeming glory,  
praise the One who makes us one.

*Words: Rusty Edwards (b. 1955)*

*Tune: Nettleton, American folk melody from  
'A Repository of Sacred Music', Part 2  
harm. John Wilson (1905-1992). TIS 392*

# WELCOME

Come people of God,  
turn your hearts and minds to the light of Christ  
even as we turn to the warmth of our summer sun.  
Let us be ready to welcome the events and the people  
who may become turning points in our lives.

**We welcome with eyes and hearts open,  
ready to see God present in our summer world;  
in the people we meet and in the things we do.**

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

**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.

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.

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. <sup>1</sup>

*Please be seated.*

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<sup>1</sup> Joy Cowley

## RECONCILIATION

In this time of quiet  
we invite you to reflect on life this holiday season.  
Bring into the presence of God, in this place,  
the joys and and burdens you carry with you this morning.  
If you need forgiveness, seek it in the renewing love of God.  
If you need healing, or courage, or wisdom,  
seek it in the peace of God.  
Jesus says, "Ask, and it will be given to you;  
search, and you will find;  
knock, and the door will be opened for you"

*Luke 11:9*

*Silence.*

**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.

## SENTENCE AND PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Anyone who does not heed the words  
that the prophet shall speak in my name,  
I myself will hold accountable.

*Deuteronomy 18:19*

**God help us to change.  
To change ourselves and to change our world.  
To know the need for it. To deal with the pain of it.  
To feel the joy of it. To undertake the journey  
without understanding the destination.  
The art of gentle revolution. Amen. <sup>2</sup>**

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<sup>2</sup> *Leunig. A common prayer.*

# THE FIRST READING

A reading from “The Desert is Fertile” by Dom Helder Camara.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.  
Thanks be to God.

# THE GRADUAL HYMN

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.

Like a mother, you enfold me,  
hold my life within your own,  
feed me with your very body,  
form me of your flesh and bone.

Like a father, you protect me,  
teach me the discerning eye,  
hoist me up upon your shoulder,  
let me see the world from high.

Friend and lover, in your closeness  
I am known and held and blessed:  
in your promise is my comfort;  
in your presence I may rest.

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.

*Words: Shirley Murray  
Tune: Omni Die, melody from David Gregor Corner’s  
‘Gesangbuch’, Nürnberg, 1631  
arr. William Smith Rockstro (1823-1895). TIS 101*

## THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Mark,  
chapter one, beginning at verse twenty-one.

Shine on our pathways.

*Mark 1:21-28*

This is the Gospel of Christ.

May we hear wisdom.

## THE SERMON

## REFLECTIVE MUSIC

*Please stand.*

## THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us. You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.

You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now. You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you. <sup>3</sup>

*Please be seated.*

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<sup>3</sup> NZ Prayer Book, p. 481

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us be still and mindful of the world, the Church,  
this nation, our communities, and ourselves.

## THE PEACE

*Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.*

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace  
**who breaks down the walls that divide.**

The peace of God be always with you  
**and also with you.**

*Please turn and greet those around you with peace.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN <sup>4</sup>

Take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me,  
gave me light and food and shelter,  
gave me life and set me free.  
Now, because your love has touched me,  
I have love to give away;  
now the bread of love is rising,  
loaves of love to multiply!

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<sup>4</sup> *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.*



Take the fruit that I have gathered  
from the tree your Spirit sowed,  
harvest of your own compassion,  
juice that makes the wine of God;  
spiced with humour, laced with laughter –  
flavour of the Jesus life,  
tang of risk and new adventure,  
taste and zest beyond belief.

Take whatever I can offer –  
gifts that I have yet to find,  
skills that I am slow to sharpen,  
talents of the hand and mind,  
things made beautiful for others  
in the place where I must be:  
take my gifts and let me love you,  
God who first of all loved me.

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)  
Tune: Talavera Terrace, Colin Gibson. AA 127*

## THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

God, accept your people's gifts,  
not gold, frankincense or myrrh,  
but hearts and voices raised in praise of you,  
our light and our hope.

**Amen.**

# 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.**

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,  
creator, ever-living God,

through Jesus Christ your only Son:

for at this time we celebrate your revelation in our midst.

In the coming of the Magi

Jesus was revealed to the nations.

In the waters of baptism he was revealed as your Son,  
sent among us.

In the water made wine

the new creation was revealed at the wedding feast.

Poverty was turned to riches, sorrow into joy.

Therefore with all the angels of heaven

we lift our voices in joyful words of praise:

**Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and just,  
glory and goodness come from you.**

**Glory to you most high and gracious God.**

On that night before he died  
Jesus took bread and gave you 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, and gave you thanks.  
He gave it to them and said:

Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant,  
shed for you, shed for all,  
to forgive sin; do this to remember me.

As this bread was scattered  
and then gathered and made one;  
so may we be gathered into your kingdom.

**Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Wisdom has built her a house;  
she has mixed her wine; she has set her table.

**Glory to you, O God, for ever.**

Send your Holy Spirit,  
that we who receive Christ's body  
may indeed be the body of Christ,  
and we who share his cup  
draw strength from the one true vine.

**Praise, glory and love be yours,  
this and every day, from us and all people,  
here and everywhere. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kua akona nei tātou e to tātou Ariki, ka waiata 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 āianeī

he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.

Murua o mātou hara,

me mātou hoki e muru nei,

i o 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.

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break the bread of life,

and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us,

bring us to light and life. <sup>5</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> The prayers are taken from the Church of England resources and A NZ Prayer Book

We sing three times Taizé:

A - do - ra - mus te Chris - te, be - ne - di - ci - mus ti - bi,  
qui - a per cru - cem tu - am re - de - mi - sti mun - dum,  
qui - a per cru - cem tu - am re - de - mi - sti mun - dum. 6

## TE POWHIRI 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.*

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<sup>6</sup> We adore you, Jesus Christ, and we bless your holy name;  
truly your cross and passion bring us life and healing.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*Priest:*

God of abundant love and unexpected gifts.  
We delight in your presence amongst us.

We are glad we can gather around your table as friends  
sharing the bread of life and wine of blessing.  
In this holiday season  
we will look for you in the smile of strangers,  
we will honour you in the life of those we love,  
we will be people of God and the Body of Christ  
wherever we are. Amen.

## THE BLESSING

## NOTICES

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

**Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,**  
hidden now in mystery,  
nature bursts with joyful promise,  
ripe with what is yet to be.  
In a wealth of rich invention,  
still the work of art unfolds:  
barely have we seen, and faintly,  
**what God's great salvation holds.**

**Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,**  
nothing shall be left to chance.  
All that lives will be united  
in the everlasting dance.  
All fulfilled and all perfected,  
each uniquely loved and known,  
Christ in glory unimagined  
once for all receives his own.

*Words: Marnie Barrell*

*Tune: Hyfrydol, melody by Rowland Huw Prichard (1811-1887). TIS 217(i)*

*Deacon from the rear of the church:*

Go now to live the Gospel. Go in peace.  
**Amen. We go in the power of Love.**

## ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Marche Triomphale: Nun danket alle Gott, Op.65*

*Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877-1933)*

*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.*

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