



SUNDAY
FEBRUARY

25



LENT 2

2024

*At any time in the service when we invite you to stand
you are welcome to remain seated if you need to.*

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

God, come now to explore my heart,
to lead me deep within.

Help me descend the quiet path,
and let me there begin

to build my trust and face my dread
of having all revealed:

the needs ignored, the faults denied,
the guilt and grief concealed.

God, enter now the hidden place
with gently searching light;

I freely give you keys to doors

kept far from others' sight.

Come, mend the broken, heal the hurt,
speak peace to ease my shame,

restore the good you see in me
and call me by my name.

God, show the unsuspected gifts
you placed there from the start.

Your love now makes me bold to find
the treasures in my heart,

the missing parts of your design
entrusted to my care;

then lead me back to love and serve
with all I have to share.

Words: Marnie Barrell

Tune: Ellacombe, melody from 'Mainz Gesangbuch', 1833. TIS 453

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 St Paul's Eucharist)

Katherine Dienes-Williams

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 22:22-31

Chant: Matthew Camidge (1764-1844)

I will declare your name to my people:
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you.

Give praise all you that fear the Lord: proclaim God's greatness, all you
children of Jacob, stand in awe all you children · of Israel.

For you O God have not despised or abhorred the poor in their
affliction: you have not hidden your face from them,
but you heard them when they called to you.

You are the theme of my praise in the full assembly:
my vows I will perform in the sight of those who fear you.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied: those who seek you O Lord shall
praise you, may they be in good heart for ever.

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you O Lord:
and let all the families of the nations bow down before you.

For yours is the kingdom O Lord: and you are the ruler over the nations.

As for those who sleep in the grave, how shall they worship you:
all those who go down into the dust, how shall they bow before you?

But I shall live through you, and my children shall serve you:
they shall tell of you to the generations that are yet to come.

To a people as yet unborn they shall make known:
the saving deeds you have done.

² ANZPB p.458

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

What would you gain if you were to win the whole world but lose yourself? What can you offer in exchange for your soul?

Mark 8:36, 37

God of dispossession,
you rebuke our refusal to give up our idols;
companion us that we might choose to take risk of life.
Amen.

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

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

THE GRADUAL HYMN

We sing the song of God's great name
God's dream of liberty
unbinding all from grief and shame
the song to set us free.

We aim to act on Love's behalf
when evil would prevail.
Give us the hands and hearts to serve
to strive and not to fail.

Justice and peace will come about
in Earth's community,
when holiness in every part
inspires humanity.

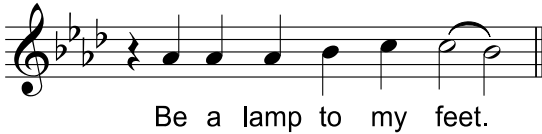
So sing the song of God's great name
with hope and joyful praise.
God will greet all in every task
enlightening all our days.

Words: Jenny Blood (1932-2022)

*Tune: Richmond, later form of melody by Thomas Haweis (1734-1820),
adapted by Samuel Webbe the younger (c.1770-1843), TiS 425*

THE GOSPEL

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



Mark 8:31-38

This is the Gospel of Christ.



THE SERMON

THE ANTHEM

When I survey the wondrous cross

John Bertalot

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 *

The kingdom of God is justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy;
God's power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace,
the captives are freed, the sinners find place,
the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share,
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice,
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for us sinners brought Christ to his cross,
our crisis of judgement for gain and for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal,
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole;
the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call,
and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

Words: Byrn Austin Rees (1911-1983)

*Tune: Paderborn, later form of German traditional melody "Maria zu lieben" from
"Paderborn Gesangbuch, 1765. TIS 470*

* *During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's.*

*For electronic giving option to make a fast one off or ongoing
donation to St Matthew-in-the-City
text **stmatthew** to **818**, or scan this QR code:*



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. ³

Blessed be God forever.


THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Cantor *All*



God meets us here. God's Spir - it is with us.

Cantor *All*



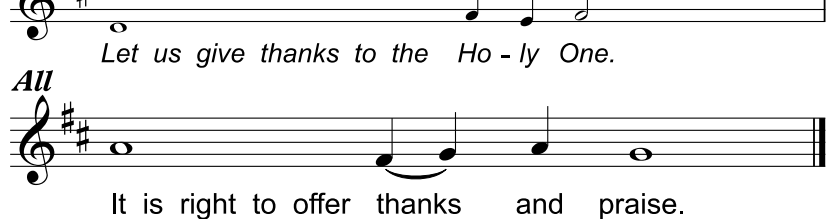
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to God.

Cantor



Let us give thanks to the Ho - ly One.

All



It is right to offer thanks and praise.

³ 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.

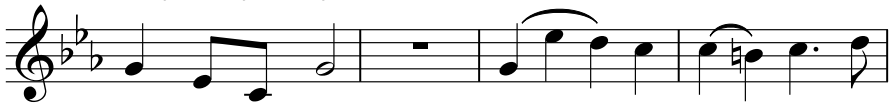
We thank you, Son of Heaven,
that you empty yourself of might and glory
and set your face towards the fickle crowd,
the cruel empire, the faithful despisers.

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. ⁴

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 ālanei

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 whakawala;

engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:

Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha, me te korōria,

Āke, ake, ake. Āmine.

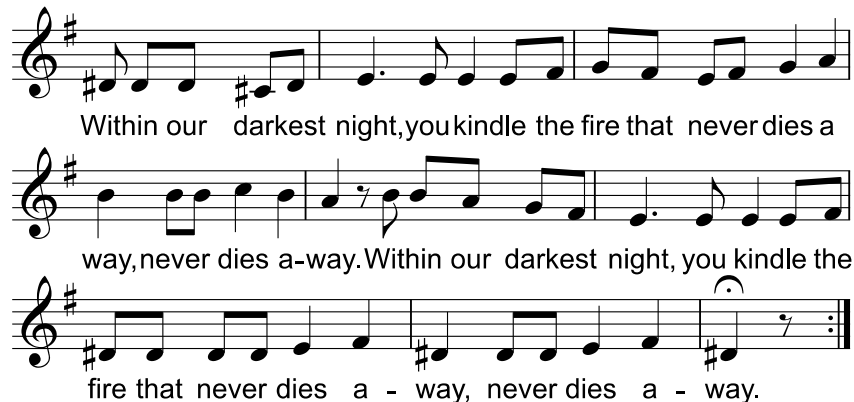
⁴ Steven Shakespeare

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":



Within our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies a
way, never dies a-way. Within our darkest night, you kindle the
fire that never dies a - way, never dies a - way.

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

Come, my way, my truth, my life

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake

Richard Farrant (1530-1580)

Just as I am

Bob Chilcott

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. ⁵

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

Community of Christ,
who made the cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life
for God alone:
the God who wears your face,
to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race
and every song.

⁵ *Jenny Blood (1932-2022)*

Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry,
and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.

Community of Christ,
through whom the world must sound –
cry out for justice and for peace
the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war
and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish into joy.

When menace melts away,
so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace
and Christ its Sun;
our currency be love
and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one forevermore.

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
Tune: Leoni, Hebrew Synagogue melody, transcribed by Meyer Lyon (1751-1797),
arr. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799). TiS 473*

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

Adagio (from Sonata No. 1, Op. 65)

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

MUSIC NOTES

Vaughan Williams' Five Mystical Songs are settings of poems from George Herbert's celebrated collection *The Temple*. *The Call* is a superb example of Vaughan Williams' ability to elaborate the likes of simple tunes, plainsong and hymns into moving messages of faith and mysticism. Herbert himself wrote that music was 'not a science only, but a divine voice', a view that Vaughan Williams, although a confirmed agnostic, also shared.

There is some doubt as to whether *Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake* was written by Farrant or another Elizabethan composer, John Hilton (1565 - 1609). Both Farrant and Hilton were cathedral musicians who had an interest in the theatre, producing plays enacted by young choristers.

Bob Chilcott is a former member of the King's Singers, and one of the UK's most popular choral composers. His setting of *Just as I am* opens with a simplicity and innocence created by a beautiful melody. The texture gradually evolves as the other voices make their entries. Charlotte Elliott's text states her own personal search for God and her belief in a Gospel of pardon, peace, and heaven.

*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 **OR** put in a recycling bin provided at the back of the church.*

Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell

*Hymns reproduced with permission under CCLI licence 637264
Hymns and music livestreamed with permission under CCLI licence 1483113*