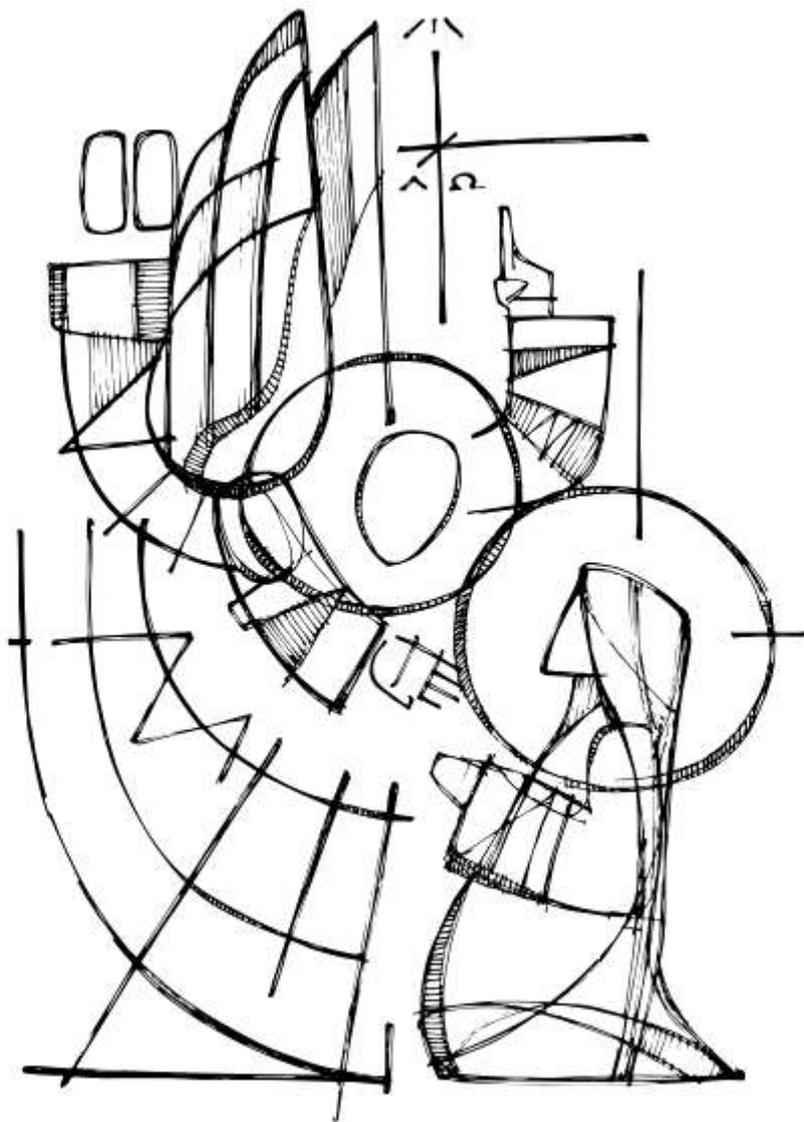


St Matthew-in-the-City



FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION

Sunday 21 March 2021

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, celebrate the women  
who brought the Church to birth!  
the gentle revolution  
that shall transform the earth:  
whose faith was salt and leaven,  
whose hearts and minds were free,  
and this was their direction –  
to peace and unity.

The teachers, saints and mothers  
who lived and died unsung  
kept safe the gospel story  
and taught it to the young;  
the Christ child Mary cradled,  
the living Word to be,  
was crucified for pleading  
this peace and unity.

Daughters of the disciples,  
you weave the story still,  
the fabric of the future  
with warmth and love and skill,  
you make the bread of wholeness,  
the wine of harmony –  
and all shall share your feasting  
in peace and unity!

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)  
Tune: Ellacombe (1), melody from 'Mainz Gesangbuch', 1833. TIS 361*

# 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. <sup>1</sup>

*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 Messe de la Camerata)*

*Richard Quesnel*

*Silence.*

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. <sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> ANZPB p.168

## PSALM 119:9-16

*Plainchant*

How shall the young keep themselves undefiled,  
surely by obeying your word.

With my whole heart I seek you  
let me not stray from your commandments.

I treasure your word in my heart:  
for fear I should sin against you.

Blessèd are you O Lord,  
O teach me your statutes.

With my lips have I been telling:  
of all the judgments you have uttered.

I have found more joy in the way of your commandments  
than in all manner of riches.

I will meditate on your precepts  
and I will give heed to your ways.

I will delight in your statutes  
and I will not forget your word.

## THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Look the young woman is with child and shall bear a son,  
and shall name him Immanuel.

*Isaiah 7:14*

Mighty One,  
we praise you for Mary,  
whose hospitable yes made a place for love;  
whose song of transformation  
makes thrones and rulers tremble;  
whose prayer is heard  
because she is one of us,  
through Jesus, Mary's child. Amen.

## THE FIRST READING

A reading from *Miryam of Nazareth, Woman of Strength and Wisdom* by Ann Johnson.

*Miryam of Nazareth, Woman of Strength and Wisdom*

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

## THE GRADUAL HYMN

The angel Gabriel from heaven came,  
his wings as drifted snow, his eyes as flame;  
**'All hail,' said he, 'thou lowly maiden Mary,**  
most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

**'for known a blessed Mother thou shalt be,**  
all generations laud and honour thee,  
thy Son shall be Immanuel, by seers foretold;  
**most highly favoured lady.' Gloria!**

Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head,  
**'To me be as it pleaseth God,' she said,**  
**'my soul shall laud and magnify His holy name':**  
most highly favoured lady, Gloria!

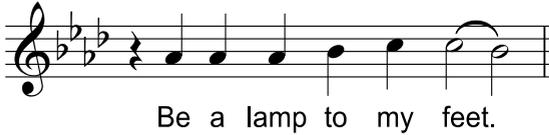
of her, Immanuel, the Christ was born  
in Bethlehem, all on a Christmas morn,  
and Christian folk throughout the world will ever say  
**'most highly favoured lady'. Gloria!**

*Words: Basque Carol, paraphrased  
by Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924)*

*Tune: Gabriel's Message, Basque traditional carol melody  
arr. Charles Edgar Pettman (1866-1943). TIS 302*

# THE GOSPEL

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



*Luke 1:26-38*

This is the Gospel of Christ.



# THE SERMON

# THE ANTHEM

*Ave Maria*

*Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)*

# 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 <sup>3</sup>

Mary, woman of the promise;  
vessel of your people's dreams:  
through your open, willing spirit  
waters of God's goodness streamed.

Mary, song of holy wisdom  
sung before the world began:  
faithful to the Word within you,  
as you bore God's wondrous plan.

Mary, morning star of justice;  
mirror of the Radiant Light:  
in the shadows of life's journey,  
be a beacon for our sight.

Mary, model of compassion;  
wounded by your offspring's pain:  
when our hearts are torn by sorrow,  
teach us how to love again.

Mary, woman of the gospel;  
humble home for treasured seed:  
help us to be true disciples,  
bearing fruit in word and deed.

*Words: Mary Frances Fleischaker*

*Tune: Quem Pastores. German Carol, 14th Century. Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams  
(1872-1958). The New Century Hymnal 123*

---

<sup>3</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*
- *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. <sup>4</sup>

Blessed be God forever.

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Cantor* *All*



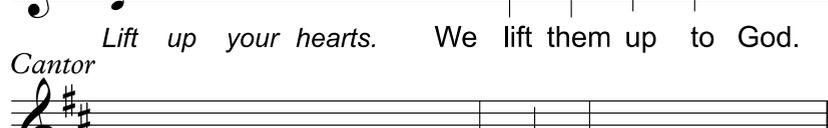
God meets us here. God's Spir - it is with us.

*Cantor* *All*



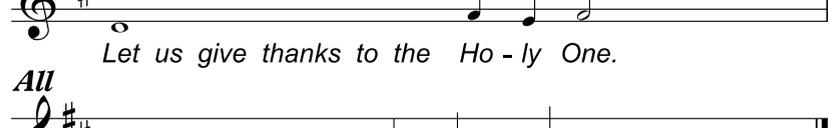
Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to God.

*Cantor*



Let us give thanks to the Ho - ly One.

*All*



It is right to offer thanks and praise.

---

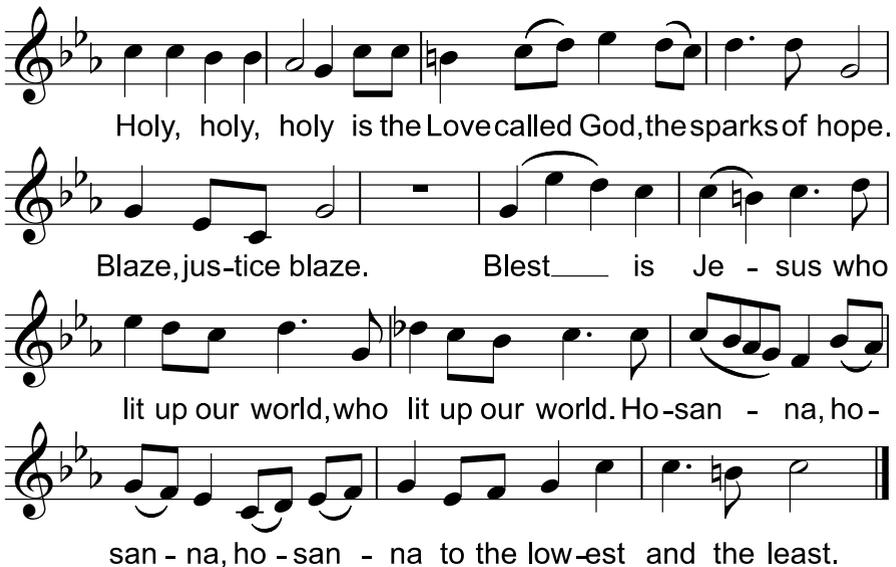
<sup>4</sup> Dorothy Mc Rae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days" p.122

Cradling God, we thank and praise you  
because you bring all things into being.

Through trial and truth-telling, touch and tenderness,  
you nurture a people  
and lead them in the ways of justice and of peace.

When the time came for you  
to dwell among us in flesh and blood,  
your Holy Spirit called a woman to be the God-bearer,  
that in her we may behold  
that our bodies could bring forth your glory.

And so we join with angels and archangels  
and all the household of heaven to sing  
the song of your eternal joy: <sup>5</sup>



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.

---

<sup>5</sup> *Eucharistic Prayer for Mother's Day*; p 344 "Eucharistic Prayers"  
Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher

Redeeming God,  
you called a woman to be closest to your Son  
at the moment of his nativity,  
at the place of his crucifixion,  
and in the wonder of his resurrection.

On the night Jesus was betrayed,  
at table with his disciples, he took bread,  
gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying,  
"Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me:'

After supper he took the cup.  
Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me:'<sup>6</sup>



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.

---

<sup>6</sup> *Eucharistic Prayer for Mother's Day*; p 344 "Eucharistic Prayers"  
Samuel Wells and Abigail Kocher

We ask that your Holy Spirit  
fall upon us and upon these gifts  
that through these fragile, earthly things  
we may be the body of Christ.

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.

Like a mother hen gathering her chicks  
you draw the weary, the lost, and the betrayed  
to the feasting table of your abundance.

Receive our broken offering  
and bind us in communion with all who share your gifts;  
through Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>

**Amen.**

*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 āiane  
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.

---

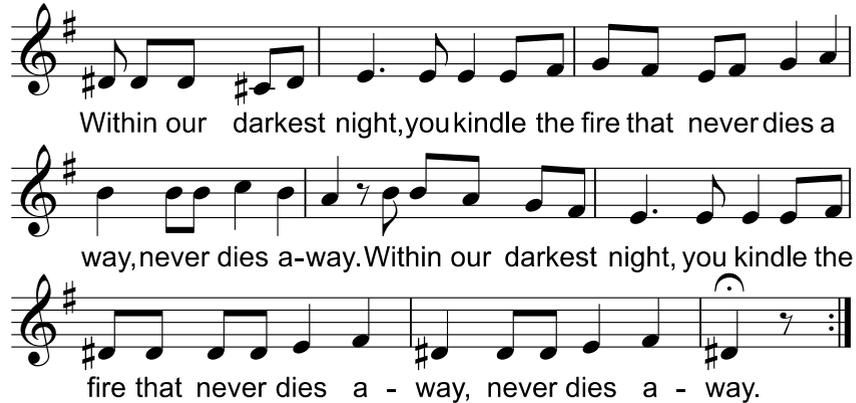
<sup>7</sup> Steven Shakespeare

# 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

*Laudi alla Vergine Maria*

*Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901)*

# 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. <sup>8</sup>

# THE BLESSING

# NOTICES

---

<sup>8</sup> *Jenny Blood*

# FINAL HYMN

When out of poverty is born  
a dream that will not die,  
and landless, weary folk find strength  
to stand with heads held high,  
**it's then we learn from those who wait**  
to greet the promised day,  
**'The Lord is coming; don't lose heart.**  
**Be blest: prepare the way!'**

When people wander far from God,  
forget to share their bread,  
they find their wealth an empty thing,  
their spirits are not fed.  
For only just and tender love  
the hungry soul will stay.  
**And so God's prophets echo still**  
**'Be blest: prepare the way!'**

When God took flesh and came to earth,  
the world turned upside down,  
**and in the strength of woman's faith**  
the Word of Life was born.  
She knew that God would raise the low,  
it pleased her to obey.  
Rejoice with Mary in the call,  
**'Be blest: prepare the way!'**

*Words: Kathryn Galloway (b. 1952)*

*Tune: Kingsfold, from an English and Irish traditional melody  
coll. Lucy Broadwood (1858-1929)  
harm. and arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). TiS 262*

*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

*Postlude on "Induant Justitiam", Op. 50, No. 3*

*Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)*

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