



# FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

april 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

Such perfect love my shepherd shows, Whose goodness fails me never, Whose hand all things I need bestows And watches me forever.

Where streams of living water flow, My loving shepherd leads me, And where the verdant pastures grow With food from heaven feeds me.

I do not fear death's shadowed vale When you are here beside me; your rod and staff and strength prevail to comfort and to guide me.

You spread a table in my sight, Your gifts of grace bestowing, And from your chalice I delight To taste your mercy flowing.

And so through all the length of days, Your goodness fails be never; Good shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever.

> Words: Psalm 23; para. Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), edited Tune: Dominus Regit Me, John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876).TiS 145

### WELCOME

Priest: Kua ara a te Karaiti. Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

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:

In this Easter season, we celebrate that the powers of despair and destruction do not have the final word; that new life can still break out; that love is stronger than death; and that nothing can stop the life, hope, and determination of Easter people.

God of grace, we come today with Easter joy, seeking to be a people of resurrection. Gather us together now, form us into a community of your people, and reveal to us the Holy One. Amen.

# THE GLORIA



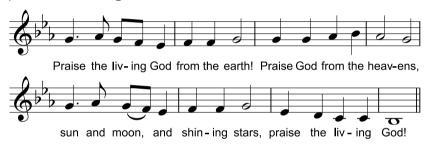
Praise the Holy Name, whose word speaks all thin

whose word speaks all things into being, who created the forces of the universe and the laughter of children. Praise the Holy Name!



Praise the living God:

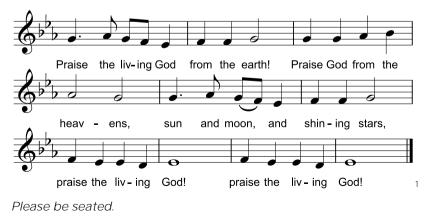
clouds and storms and ocean currents, fish in the sea and creatures of the deep, animals and cattle, insects and birds, praise the living God!



Praise the Holy Name

who did not rely only on angels and messengers

but came among us in person, whose living presence saves us! Praise God's Holy Name!



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Words: Brian Wren (adapted)

# A NEW COMMANDMENT

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.

#### THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Yahweh, you are my shepherd - I want nothing more. You let me lie down in green meadows; you lead me beside restful waters; you refresh my soul.

Psalm 23:1-3a

Good Shepherd God, you tend us, leading us to nourishing pastures, keeping us safe in your grace. As we know you by your love, so may we be known by our love, one for another. May we give ourselves for the healing and hope of your world. Amen.

#### THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 4:5-12

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

#### THE GRADUAL HYMN

Dear Shepherd of your people, hear, your presence now display; as you have given a place for prayer, so give us hearts to pray.

> Within these walls let holy peace and love and concord dwell; here give the troubled conscience ease, the wounded spirit heal.

May we in faith receive your word, in faith present our prayers; and in the presence of our Lord unburden all our cares.

> The hearing ear, the seeing eye, the humble mind bestow; and shine upon us from on high to make our graces grow.

> > Words: John Newton (1725-1807), alt Tune: St Fulbert, Henry John Gauntlett (1805-1876). TiS 56

#### THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to John, chapter ten, beginning at verse eleven.



John 10:11-18

This is the Gospel of Christ.



#### THE SERMON

#### ANTHEM

The Lord is my shepherd (from Requiem)

John Rutter

#### 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. The peace of God be with you all.

#### In God's justice is our peace.

E te whanau, Christ calls us to live in unity. We seek to live in the Spirit of Christ.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

#### THE OFFERTORY HYMN \*

Jesus Christ is risen today in this South Pacific land, this the resurrection day, in these islands where we stand; morning sky in autumn light, shining forth for our delight.

Jesus Christ is risen today over valley, crag and hill, countryside and sandy bay, bush and forest, deep and still; summer's gone, but leaves are gold, bright creation we behold.

Jesus Christ is risen today in the city's busy street, many cultures passing by, finding friendship when they meet; come and share the wondrous feast, peace and love will be increased.

> Words: Jenny Blood (1932-2022) Tune: Ratisbon, melody from Johann Gottlob Werner's 'Choralbuch', Leipzig, 1815 harmony from William Henry Havergal (1793-1870). WOV 140(ii)

\* 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

Glory be to God who flows through all creation, blessing us with gifts to share.



#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is right and a good and joyful thing,

always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creating God. In you all things are good.

You love us into being, you form us in your image and breathe into us the breath of life.

When we turn away, and our love fails,

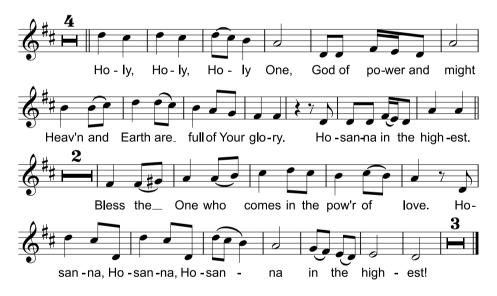
your love remains steadfast.

Your love delivers us from captivity,

and brings us into lands flowing with milk and honey.

You set before us the way of life.

And so, with the people of earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name as we join their unending hymn:



Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus.

By his baptism and death

you give your church birth into a living hope.

In Christ, risen from death,

you make a new covenant with us

by water and the Spirit, and deliver us into freedom.

We are now your resurrected people, the living body of Christ. declaring life, hope and justice.

On the last night Jesus shared a meal with his friends, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: Take, eat: this is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

When the supper was over he took the cup,

gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said,

Drink this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new Covenant,

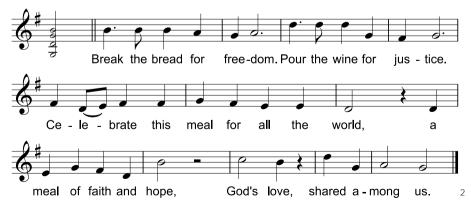
which is shed for you and for all,

for the forgiveness of sins.

Whenever you drink it,

do this for the remembrance of me.

On the third day he was revealed to the women and was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of bread.



<sup>2</sup> Words by Jenny Blood (1932-2022)

And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus the Christ, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice, and we praise you and we bless you.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,

and on these gifts of bread and wine.

By your spirit make us one with Christ,

one with each other, and one in loving service to all the world, until all feast at your heavenly banquet.<sup>3</sup>



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.

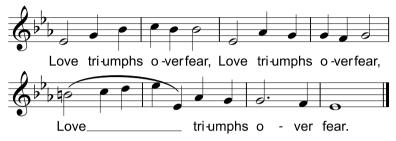
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Richard Fabian, St Gregory of Nyssa, San Francisco, adapted

# 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:



# 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

Jubilate Deo

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Worthy is the Lamb (from Messiah)

George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Risen Christ, whom we have seen with our eyes and touched with our hands; the word of life in whom our joy is complete: send us out to declare your truth, your unshakeable faith in the world you love. Amen. <sup>4</sup>

#### THE BLESSING

#### NOTICES

#### FINAL HYMN

Christ is alive, with joy we sing; we celebrate our risen Lord, praising the glory of his name. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the grain of wheat that died, sown in distress and reaped in joy, yielding a harvest of new life. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the vine set in the earth, sharing our life, from birth to death, that we might share in God's own life. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

He is the bread that comes from God, broken to feed us in our need, given to bring eternal life. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Steven Shakespeare

Christ is alive, with joy we sing; we celebrate our risen Lord, praising the glory of his name. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

> Words: Pamela Stotter Tune: Vulpius, melody from Melchior Vulpius (c.1560-1615) in his 'Gesangbuch', Jena, 1609. TiS 393

Deacon from the rear of the Church:

Alleluia. Alleluia. Go now for the Spirit of God is alive in the land. Amen. We go in the power of love. Alleluia, alleluia.

#### ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C major BWV 545

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

#### MUSIC NOTES

John Rutter's Requiem was written in 1985 and first performed in October of that year. Following the precedent established by Brahms and Fauré, among others, it is not strictly a setting of the Requiem Mass as laid down in Catholic liturgy, but instead is made up of a personal selection of texts, some taken from the Requiem Mass and some from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer. "The Lord is my shepherd" refreshingly sets the familiar words of Psalm 23 in the Book of Common Prayer, and was originally written in 1978 as a stand-alone anthem for Mel Olson and the Chancel Choir of First United Methodist Church in Omaha, Nebraska. Rutter felt that it encapsulated his Requiem's message of reassurance.

Britten's Jubilate in C major was written at the request of the Duke of Edinburgh in 1961. Though composed for St George's Chapel, Windsor, the canticle was first performed in Leeds Parish Church. The sparseness of the texture is typical of Britten's later style. Voice parts are often in pairs — with hints of heterophony (divergent versions of the same melody), a feature of the eastern music Britten encountered during this period. Though the music's tone is generally buoyant, recalling the pealing of bells, some of the word-setting ('Be thankful unto him', for example) is hushed, set not as a hymn of praise but in a whisper over a long organ chord. History doesn't record Prince Philip's reaction, but it was performed at his funeral in 2021.

Handel's magnificent "Worthy is the Lamb" is the final chorus of his great oratorio, Messiah. It describes Christ's acclamation in heaven, having conquered death and sin. It has been described as "a remarkable confluence of Hebrew theology, Italian operatic genius, English class and German piety."

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

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