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

PROCESSIONAL MUSIC
Forty days and forty nights
   Tune: Heinlein, melody from the ‘Nürnbergisches Gesang-Buch’, 1676 
   attrib. Martin Herbst (1654-1681)

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. 

Please be seated.

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1 ANZPB p.168
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 eleison

Ukrainian Traditional

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. ²

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

A wandering Aramean was my ancestor, he went down into Egypt and there he became a great nation.

Deuteronomy 26:5

God of the wilderness, your Spirit leads us to face the truth, unprotected and exposed: in our times of trial, help us to resist the worship of empty power and the illusion of invulnerability. Amen. ³

² ANZPB p.458
³ Steven Shakespeare (adapt)
THE FIRST READING
A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy.

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

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

PSALM 91, VERSES 1-2, 9-16

Chant: W. G. Alcock (1861-1947)

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High
and passes the night under the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the Lord,
‘You are my refuge and my stronghold God in whom I trust.’

Because you have said, ‘The Lord is my refuge’
and made the Most High your stronghold,
there shall no evil befall you,
no plague shall come near your dwelling.
For the angels of God have been charged
to keep you in all your ways.
They shall bear you up in their hands,
lest you should strike your foot against a stone.
You shall tread on the asp and the adder,
the viper and the serpent you shall trample under foot.
‘Because they have set their love upon me
I will deliver them,
I will uphold them because they know my name.
‘When they call to me I will answer,
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and bring them to honour.
‘With long life I will satisfy them and show them my saving power.’

THE GOSPEL
Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Luke, chapter four, beginning at verse one.

Be a lamp to my feet.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Be a light for my path.

THE SERMON

THE ANTHEM
The Spirit of the Lord

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

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.

[The peace of God be always with you. And also with you.]

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.
Please refrain from shaking hands.
THE OFFERTORY MUSIC

Love will be our Lenten calling,
love to shake and shatter sin,
waking every closed, cold spirit,
stirring new life deep within,
till the quickened heart remembers
what our Easter birth can mean.

Peace will be our Lenten living
as we turn for home again,
longing for the words of pardon,
stripping off old grief and pain,
till we stand, restored and joyful,
with the Church on Easter day.

Truth will be our Lenten learning:
hear the Crucified One call!
Shadowed by the Saviour's passion,
images and idols fall,
and, in Easter's holy splendour,
God alone is all in all.

Words: Elizabeth J. Smith
Tune: Picardy, French traditional carol melody from
'Chansons Populaires des Provinces de France', 1860. TiS 497

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4 There is a donation bowl on the back table.
For electronic giving option:
- text stmathew 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. 

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

5 Dorothy McRae-McMahon “Liturgy for High Days” p.122
We thank you, desert Mother,
for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh
quickened 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, justice blaze. Blест is Jesus who
lit up our world, who lit up our world. Hosanna, hosanna,
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.’

As on that night, so here and now he offers himself in touch and taste beyond all words can hold.

We offer bread to eat with eyes and hands held open. We pass this cup to share. We take, break, bless and give kindling hope everywhere.

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 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. 

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.

6 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.

The bread will be brought to you - please stay seated in the pews. If you do not wish to receive the bread the priest will offer a blessing.

Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.

Those who wish to can move to the Peace Chapel for the imposition of ashes.
MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

Miserere mei Deus

William Byrd (1540 - 1623)

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.

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

Go now to live the gospel, go in peace.
Amen. We go to serve in love.

RECESSIONAL MUSIC | VOLUNTARY

O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig, BWV 618

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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.

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7 Jenny Blood (1932-2022)