



A SERVICE OF CELEBRATION
OF A NEW MINISTRY
AND THE INDUCTION OF
THE REVEREND RICHARD BONIFANT
AS VICAR OF ST MATTHEW-IN-THE-CITY
BY THE RIGHT REVEREND
ROSS BAY



THURSDAY

18

APRIL 2024
7.30PM

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

INTROIT

Haere Mai

Chris Adams

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

The Bishop enters the Church.

God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward
stir the spirit, stretch the mind;
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.

Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.

End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack –
once we've started on this journey
there can be no turning back;
let us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
cherish only what's essential,
choosing treasure that will last.

When we set up camp and settle
to avoid love's risk and pain,
you disturb complacent comfort,
pull the tent pegs up again;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

Words: Joy Dine

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

The Bishop:

E te whānau
Nau mai, haere mai
ki tēnei whare karakia
o tō tātou Atua Kaha Rawa
Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tātou katoa.

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.

Let us give thanks
for the coming of God's reign of justice and love.
**Jesus Christ is good news for the poor,
release for the captives,
recovery of sight for the blind
and liberty for those who are oppressed.**

The Vicar-elect and his whānau are brought in by the Archdeacon.

The Bishop:

E te whānau a te Karaiti, we have come together to celebrate a new partnership in the life of this parish and to welcome Richard Bonifant as the Vicar of St-Matthew-in-the-City.

Welcome to all who have come to support and pray for this new beginning in ministry. We welcome those who have travelled some distance to be here, from across this diocese and across the motu. And we welcome Emily, Maika, and Arwen who also become part of this special community tonight.

The whānau of Richard, Emily, Maika, and Arwen:

Bishop Ross and the people of St Matthew-in-the-City, we bring you Richard Bonifant, Priest. We pray that this parish will care for Richard and Emily, Maika, and Arwen, as they share their lives with this community.

Please be seated.

Diocesan and Parish Nominators:

Bishop Ross we have joined in prayer and deliberation in nominating Richard Bonifant to serve as the next Vicar of St Matthew-in-the-City. We ask you now to induct Richard as Vicar of this parish and to commission us all in the ministry we share.

The Bishop thanks the Nominators before asking:

Are you the people of St Matthew-in-the-City happy to receive and welcome Richard as your new Vicar?

We are.

The Bishop:

Will all of you who have come to witness this new beginning, do all in your power to support and uphold Richard in this ministry?

We will.

The Bishop:

Let us pray

Eternal Love,

In every age you call us to yourself

that we may become your people;

We thank you for all who have faithfully served here,

and remember all those who have heard your call to love and justice in this place.

Send your Holy Wisdom

to give us understanding of the past,

vision for the future

and courage to undertake your work

in this community and beyond,

through Christ our companion on the journey.

Amen.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

1 John 4:18-20

Here what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100

Jubilate Deo in C

Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

Luke 24 (Selected Verses)

Here what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Right Reverend Ross Bay.

*At the conclusion of the sermon
there will be a short time of silence for reflection.*

ANTHEM

The Spirit of the Lord

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

COMMISSIONING IN MINISTRY

The Vicar-elect stands before the Bishop.

The Bishop asks the Vicar-elect:

Richard, do you believe that you are called by God and the Church to the ministry to which you are to be licensed?

Richard:

Yes I do. I thank God for this call and look forward to ministering alongside the people of St Matthew-in-the-City.

Archdeacon:

Bishop Ross, I confirm that Richard has signed the declaration of adherence and submission to the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia and so may now be licensed to the Office of Vicar of St Matthew-in-the-City.

The Bishop:

Richard, do you, in the presence of this congregation, commit yourself to this new ministry and responsibility? Will you be both a leader and a partner, a guide and a pilgrim, a teacher and a servant, with the people of St Matthew-in-the-City?

Richard:

With God's help, I will.

The Bishop:

Richard, we praise God for your commitment to serve Christ in this way. Pray and we will pray with you, that your life and ministry may bring glory to God.

We keep silent prayer with the Vicar-elect and the Bishop.

The Bishop:

Holy and living God, strengthen and equip Richard with your gifts of grace for his ministry as Vicar of this Parish; renew his life in Christ and bring to completion all that your calling has begun.

Amen.

PRESENTATION OF LICENCE

The Bishop:

Richard, receive this licence to the office of Vicar of St Matthew-in-the-City. Accept its responsibilities, which are both mine and yours. Be a true minister of God's Holy word and Sacraments, and a faithful pastor to God's people.

Richard:

God keep me faithful in proclaiming the living Word of Scripture and administering the Holy Sacraments.

The Bishop:

May you remain open to God's Spirit empowering you, challenging you, inspiring and refreshing you in your life and ministry.

The blessing of God be upon you:

Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life now and forever.

Amen.

The Archdeacon shows Richard to his seat saying:

Richard, welcome to the Archdeaconry.

I install you as Vicar of this Parish.

The joys and responsibilities of this Office are now yours.

Amen. May God inspire you in the ministry you now share with us.

The Bishop invites those gathered to greet the Vicar.

HYMN

**Tama ngākau mārie, Tama a t'Atua,
tēnei tonu mātou, arohaina mai.**

**Murua rā ngā hara. Wetekina mai
ēnei here kino, whakararu nei.**

Takahia ki raro, tau e kino ai;
kei pā kaha tonu, ko nga mahi hē.

**Hōmai he aroha, mōu i mate nei.
Tēnei ra, e Ihu, tākina e koe.**

**Tēnei arahina, a tutuki noa:
puta i te pōuri, whiwhi hari nui.**

**Tama ngākau mārie, Tama a t'Atua,
tēnei tonu mātou, arohaina mai. Amine.**¹

*Words: Traditional Maori hymn
Tune: Tama ngākau mārie, traditional Maori hymn. AA 128*

Please be seated.

¹ *Son of a peaceful heart, remove our sin. Trample evil underfoot. Give us love and lead us through darkness to joy. Son of a peaceful heart, love us.*

CELEBRATING THE MINISTRY OF ST MATTHEW-IN-THE-CITY

Members of St Matthew-in-the-City light candles representing aspects of the community's life and place them at the front.

Parishioners of St Matthew-in-the-City

“If I then, have washed your feet,
you should wash one another's feet.”

John 13:14

We commit ourselves to minister to the most vulnerable: the poor, the distressed, the old, the abused, and the outcasts.

The Vestry, Wardens, and Administration Staff

“Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit by the peace that binds you together.”

Ephesians 4:3

We commit ourselves to be good stewards and to administer the life of this church with care.

Those committed to education

“If we live by truth and love,
we shall grow in all ways into Christ.”

Ephesians 4:15

We commit ourselves to asking the hard questions, to rigorous study, and to the imaginative searching for truth.

Those who advocate for justice and the natural world

“But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” *Amos 5:24*

We commit ourselves to be a community that yearns for justice, and which supports groups that work for justice. We advocate for those facing inequality and hardship in our community, and for those worst hit by our climate crisis. We dare to hope for a world in which all life has access to the resources they need to thrive.

Community connection and hospitality

“All are welcome at my feast.”

Isaiah 60:5

We recommit ourselves to being a community where all are welcome, all are celebrated, and where we can learn from each other the love and acceptance of God.

Those who share the gift of music

“I will pray with the spirit,
but I will pray with the mind also;
I will sing praise with the spirit,
but I will sing praise with the mind also.”

1 Corinthians 15

We thank you for music and its wondrous power to touch and heal and strengthen; under its spell the closed doors of the human spirit are unlocked, and our hearts are moved to respond to you. We commit ourselves to celebrating this precious gift.

Those who care for the heritage of St Matthew-in-the-City

“For every house is built by someone,
but God is the builder of everything.”

Hebrews 3:4

We give thanks for those whose faith, diligent effort, and financial sacrifice resulted in the building of this house of worship. We promise to care for what we have inherited so that future generations might discover the beauty of holiness.

Those who participate in leading worship

“Jesus took bread, broke it and gave it to them saying:
Take, eat this is my body.”

Mark 14:23

We recognize the love offered to all, and the healing presence of God in our lives. We commit ourselves to making the Eucharist, the radical meal in which Christ welcomes all, the pattern of our life together.

The Vicar

“What does the Lord require of you but to do justice,
and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?”

Micah 6:8

As I place this candle with those already here, I note that it is one among many. The life and work of this community is not mine to carry out alone, it is ours to rejoice in sharing. I commit myself to working with you all, as we seek to proclaim God's justice to our church, and the world around us.

THE PRAYERS

The Vicar:

Let us pray for the church and the world
giving thanks for God's goodness.

Eternal Love,
for all those who have sustained your work in this place,
caring for each other and welcoming all:

We give you thanks.

For those servants who have encouraged your people
in worship here, who have preached your word and
have administered your sacraments:

We give you thanks.

For those who have come to this place seeking you:

We give you thanks.

For those who have come here for baptism, for those
who have pledged their love to one another, and for
those who have parted with their loved ones entrusting
them to your care:

We give you thanks.

For those who have responded to your call in this place
and committed their lives to your service:

We give you thanks.

For burdens that have been made easier to carry, for
distressed and troubled hearts that have found your
peace, and for lives that have been inspired by your gift
of love:

We give you thanks.

For all your goodness and love revealed to us in this
community of St Matthew-in-the-City,
we praise you and we thank you
and know that through struggle and pain,
on the challenging path of new birth,
hope will be born
and all shall be well.

E te Atua, te whakawhetai, te whakapai,
te whakamoemiti, ki a koe;

i aro mai koe ki a mātou e tahuri atu nei.

Meatia kia pūāwai tō aroha inā inoi mātou ki a koe.

Korōria ki a koe.

In words that echo the prayer Christ taught us, we pray:

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker,
Pain-Bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be.
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name
echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever.
Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Bishop

RECESSIONAL HYMN

We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly,
tales of love that will not let us go.

We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted,
we'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed,
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of the Christ who sets us free.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken,
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed,
we'll make tunes for those who sing no longer,
vibrating love alive in every heart.

We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
chant hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story
including all within the circles of our love.

*Words: June Boyce-Tillman
Tune: Londonderry Air, trad. arr. Gabriel Jackson, 1992.
The New English Hymnal 258*

THE DISMISSAL

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Toccata in D minor, BWV 565

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)