

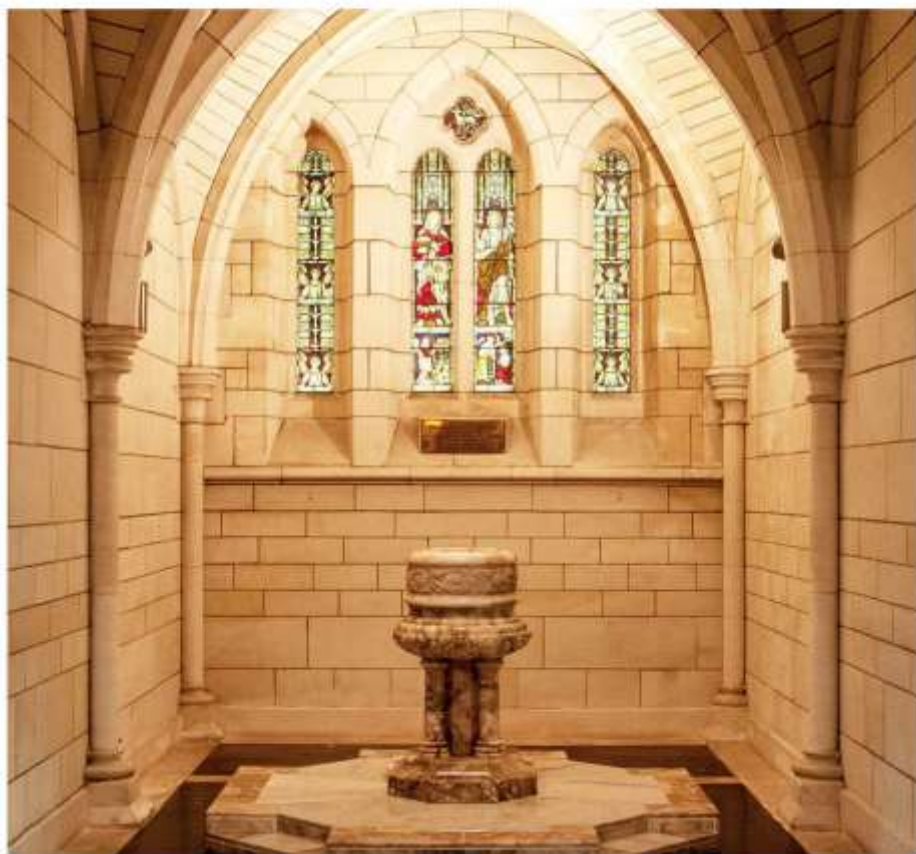


A spirited place
where people stand,
connect and seek
common ground

SUNDAY
NOVEMBER

26

2023



SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

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

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

New every morning is the love
our wakening and uprising prove;
through sleep and darkness safely brought,
restored to life and power and thought.

New mercies, each returning day,
hover around us while we pray;
new perils past, new sins forgiven,
new thoughts of God, new hopes of heaven.

If, on our daily course, our mind
be set to hallow all we find,
new treasures still, of countless price,
God will provide for sacrifice.

The trivial round, the common task,
will furnish all we need to ask;
room to deny ourselves, a road
to bring us daily nearer God.

Only, O God, in thy dear love,
fit us for perfect rest above,
and help us, this and every day,
to live more nearly as we pray.

*Words: John Keble (1792-1866)
Tune: Melcombe, melody by Samuel Webbe (1740-1816). TIS 213(ii)*

WELCOME

Grace and peace to you from God.
God fill you with truth and joy.

Liturgist: Be with us, Spirit of God;
for nothing can separate us from your love.
Breathe on us, breath of God; and fill us with your loving presence.
Speak in us, wisdom of God; and bring strength, healing and peace.

God of our days and years, we set this time apart to be still.
Form us in the likeness of Christ
so that our lives may reflect you. Amen. ¹

THE GLORIA

Words: Jenny Blood. Music: Michael Bell

Sing prais - es to God, Cre -
at - ing Pres - ence, Spin - ner of star - dust bril - liant with light,
Paint - er of dark - ness, deep - er than night. All glo - ry to God.
Sing prais - es to God,
born of com - pas - sion, Heal - ing re - la - tion - ship, bless - ing the poor,
Spurned as a reb - el by peo - ple in power. All glo - ry to God.

¹ Church of England

Sing prais - es to God,
 Flame of the Spir-it, Dream-ing new vi-sions, sing-ing new songs,
 Bring - er of good news for which the heart longs.
 All glo - ry to God. All glo - ry to God

Please be seated.

Liturgist: We come seeking forgiveness and wholeness
 for ourselves and for our world.

FORGIVENESS

1st time CANTOR, 2nd time ALL

E te A - ri - ki kia_ a - ro - ha mai.
 E - te - Ka - rai - ti kia_ a - ro - ha mai.
 E te A - ri - ki kia_ a - ro - ha mai.

[Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy]

2

Silence

God of life,
in our indifference and helplessness
we destroy your creation;
we condone violence and ignore suffering;
we do not act with compassion and justice.
Breathe on us, God, this day,
that we might be whole again. ³

Priest: God forgives us, forgive others, forgive yourself.

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

I myself will be the shepherd of the sheep.
I will seek the lost;
I will feed them with justice.

Ezekiel 34:15, 16

Stir up, O God,
the wills of your faithful people
that, richly bearing the fruit of good works,
they may by you be richly rewarded;
Amen. ⁴

PSALM 100

Chant: Jonathan Battishill (1738-1801)

Cry out with joy to the Lord all the earth:
worship with gladness,
and enter the Lord's presence with songs of joy.

Know that the Lord is God, our maker, whose people we are:
the flock which the Lord our God shepherds.

Enter the gates of the temple with thanksgiving,
and go into its courts with praise:
give thanks, and bless God's holy name.

For the Lord is a gracious God, whose mercy is everlasting:
and whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

³ *Jenny Blood (1932-2022)*

⁴ *Traditional Collect for the Sunday before Advent*

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Ezekiel.

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

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

THE GRADUAL HYMN

Sing a song for peace and justice,
speak for those who cannot speak!
claim the world for peace and justice:
let the strong support the weak.

*Light a candle in the darkness,
hope and freedom must not die!
hope and freedom must not die!*

You who live in happy places,
who can laugh and speak and sing,
listen for the other voices
mute with fear and suffering.

Light a candle in the darkness...

Thousands cry in nameless prisons
plead with powers that hold the key:
plead that human rights be honored,
that the innocent go free.

Light a candle in the darkness...

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

Tune: Cwm Rhondda, John Hughes (1873-1932). TIS 569

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Matthew chapter twenty-five, beginning at verse thirty-one.



Be a lamp to my feet.

Matthew 25:31-46

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Be a light for my path.

5

THE SERMON

SILENCE

ANTHEM

My song is love unknown

Malcom Archer

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.

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou.

A ki a koe ano hoki.

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

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN *

Song of faith that sings forever
through God's people, ages long,
Word that holds the world together
when our hearts take up the song,
always, always somewhere sounding,
though the source we do not see,
counterpoint to all despairing,
it is hope that sets the key.

Song of faith in exultation,
rising through the vaults of prayer,
tune of simple celebration
offered up in open air,
song in chapel and cathedral,
descant to our daily tone,
song from sickbed or in prison:
faith must often sing alone.

And when life would overwhelm us,
when there seems no song to sing,
hear the constant voice of courage
out of fear and suffering:
all who've loved and trusted Jesus,
all who lift us to be strong,
endless, endless are the voices
of the faith that makes the song.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

Tune: Abbeyfield, Colin Gibson. FFS 57

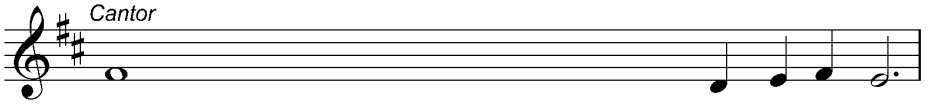
* *There is a donation bowl on the back table.*

*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

Cantor



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

All



Bless'd be God for - ev - er.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Cantor *All*



The Spirit is here.

God's hope is in us.

Cantor *All*



Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Cantor



Let us give thanks to the God of peace.

All



It is right to of-fer thanks and praise.

It is right to give you thanks, Creator of all,
for your voice alone brought light and life to birth when all began.
You called each one of us to be,
and named us with the name that you alone could speak.
You called us to be lovers of creation,
and to care for each other as you had cared for us.

But we betrayed your trust
and we in turn became the victims of betrayal.
The bond of trust became the bondage of division:
male and female, Jew and Gentile,
slave and free, oppressor and oppressed.

Yet you in your love did not desert us,
but instead Jesus came among us to seek us out,
to gather in the lost and outcast.
He threw open the doors of freedom,
casting out the darkness of our hearts
and greeting us as God's beloved friends and children.

In place of judgment, Jesus gave us compassion;
in place of condemnation, healing.
And even as he came to share our suffering,
he called us to be witnesses,
to follow in the way that led to the cross;
and to see with our own eyes the depths of your forgiveness.
Therefore, with all that have life in him, we praise you and sing:

The musical score is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure is marked 'Organ' and contains a whole note G4. The second measure is marked 'All' and contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **Ho - ly God, ho - ly and mer-ci-ful.** The third measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **ho - ly and just, glo-ry and good-ness come from you.** The fourth measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of God. Ho-** The fifth measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.** The sixth measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.** The seventh measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.** The eighth measure contains a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The lyrics are: **san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.** The score ends with a double bar line.

Organ *All*

Ho - ly God, ho - ly and mer-ci-ful.

ho - ly and just, glo-ry and good-ness come from you.

Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of God. Ho-

san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san-na in the high - est.

On the night before he died,
our friend and brother Jesus took bread,
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it and gave it to the disciples and said:
“Take, eat: This is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine,
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to the disciples and said:
“Drink of 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.
Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, loving God, we offer this bread and wine,
giving thanks for his death and resurrection:

Cantor *All*

Bread of life **food for the world.**

Cantor *All*

Cup of life **for the thir - sty.**

Cantor *All*

Je - sus our bro - ther **of-fered for us.**

Now, as was promised, send us your loving Spirit,
that this bread and this cup may represent
the life-giving presence of your Christ,
and make us one in your covenant of love,
proclaiming the freedom of new life, as together we sing: ⁶

⁶ *The Great Thanksgiving is adapted from a service from St Gregory of Nyssa, San Francisco*

Organ All

Bless - ing and ho - nour and glo - ry be yours,
 here and eve - ry - where now and for - ev - er. A - men.

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 kaweā kia whakawaia;

engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:

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

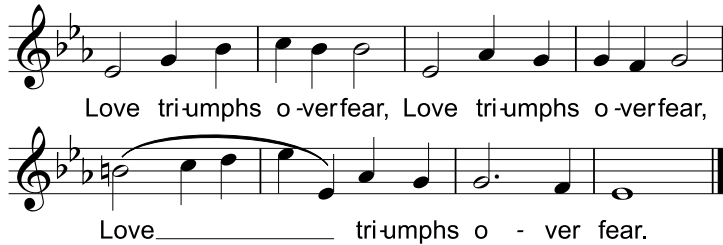
Āke, ake, ake. Āmine.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

We sing three times:



Love triumphs over fear, Love triumphs over fear,
Love triumphs over fear.

THE INVITATION

Haere mai e te kāhui a te Atua,
tangohia ēnei 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 an additional 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

Adoramus te, Christe

Orlande de Lassus (1532-1594)

Above all praise

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1809-1847)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God, whom we know in love and graciousness,
we accept with gratitude all that lies within this sacred feast.
May we carry into the world the bread which brings life
and the wine of compassion for all who wait in longing.
This we pray in your name. Amen. ⁷

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

We have a Gospel to proclaim,
Good News for all throughout the earth;
a Gospel treating all the same,
we sing God's glory, tell God's worth.

Tell of the birth at Bethlehem,
not in a royal house or hall;
but in a stable dark and dim
the Word made flesh, a light for all.

Tell of the death that Jesus died,
a victim of intrigue and lies;
his pain and sufferings hard to hide,
but faith and hope can still arise.

Tell of the message: life restored,
despair now gone, a future to see;
the way is opened for us all
to live with joy, our dreams set free.

⁷ Dorothy McRae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days", p. 126

We have a Gospel to proclaim,
Good News for all through out the earth;
a Gospel treating all the same,
we sing God's glory, tell God's worth.

*Words: Edward Joseph Burns, adapted
Tune: Fulda, W. Gardiner's 'Sacred Melodies', Vol. II, 1815
Melody probably by William Gardiner (1770-1853). TIS 608*

Deacon from the rear of the Church:

Go now for the Spirit of God is alive in the land.

Amen. We go in the power of love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Carillon (from 24 Pièces en style libre, Op.31) Louis Vierne (1870-1937)

MUSIC NOTES

Malcolm Archer has been Organist and Director of Music at Bristol, Wells and St Paul's Cathedral. He is now the Director of Chapel Music at Winchester College. He sets the familiar Samuel Crossman words made famous by John Ireland, creating a lovely addition to the various settings of this text.

Orlande de Lassus was an undisputed master of all the vocal genres of the late Renaissance, from German Lied to Latin Mass. He was extraordinarily prolific and this setting of 'Adoramus te, Christe' comes from his monumental Magnum opus musicum, published by his sons after his death. With a style that encompassed extreme chromaticism and constant modulation, Lassus stretched the compositional boundaries of his day to produce some of the most important and advanced works to come from the sixteenth century.

Translation:

*We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you,
because by your holy cross you have redeemed the world.
O Lord, have mercy upon us.*

In the summer of 1843, Felix Mendelssohn became the director of the Berlin Cathedral Choir, and wrote the Sechs Sprüche (Six Motets for different times of the year) for the choir, finishing them in 1844. The influence of the Italian a cappella style is very evident. Am Himmelfahrtstage (On Ascension Day) is the third motet in the set.

*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 Paul Chan

Hymns reproduced with permission under CCLI licence 637264

Hymns and music livestreamed with permission under CCLI licence 1483113