



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

SUNDAY JULY 5 2026



14th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

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

INTROIT

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**Here to the house of God we come,
home of the people of the Way,
here to give thanks for all we have,
naming our needs for every day,
we who have roof and rent and bread,
sure of a place to rest our head.**

**There is a knocking at our door,
sound of the homeless of the world,
voice of the frightened refugee,
cry of the children in the cold,
asking the least that is their right,
safety and shelter for the night.**

**God who is shelter, who is home,
in borrowed rooms you came to live,
pleaded to save the dispossessed,
crucified, lay in borrowed grave:
these are no strangers in your eyes,
this is your family which cries.**

**We are all tenants of your love;
gather us round a common fire,
warm us in company with Christ,
give us the heart to feel, to share
table and lodging with free hand,
space in our living, in our land.**

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
Tune: St Petersburg, Melody from Dmitry Stepanovich Borzhniansky (1752-1825),
harmony from David Evans (1874-1948). TIS 375*

WELCOME

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:

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
where God has made a holy dwelling.

God is in the midst of the city, it shall not be moved;
God will help us at the break of day.¹

BENEDICITE AOTEAROA

O give thanks to God who is good, whose love endures for ever.
Sunrise and sunset, night and day



Give to God your thanks and praise.

You prophets, priests, cleaners and clerks,
professors, programmers, teachers and learners,
seekers, discoverers, drivers and doctors



Give to God your thanks and praise.

You sweepers, diplomats, writers and artists,
grocers, carpenters, students and shop workers,
homemakers, mystics, aid workers and lawyers



Give to God your thanks and praise.

¹ Psalm 46:4-5

You Māori, Pākehā, women and men, all who inhabit the long white cloud, all saints and martyrs of the South Pacific



Give to God your thanks and praise.

2


Please be seated.

FORGIVENESS

Liturgist:

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


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]

Ian Render. Tune: Newlands Road. FFS 13

Silence

**Holy God,
we acknowledge we have resisted the light of your love,
we have not fully shared the gifts entrusted to us,
we have not treasured the gifts of our neighbours.
We are in need of your love.**

Priest:

God our healer whose mercy is like a refining fire:
touch us with your justice and confront us with your
tenderness;
that, being forgiven and comforted by you,
we may reach out to a troubled world. **Amen.** ³

SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Come to me,
all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

**Holy and eternal God,
you call us as we are;
and in our weakness you find strength.
Help us so to delight in who we are,
that we are set free to serve those who you send us.
Amen.** ⁴

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Zechariah.

Zechariah 9:9-12

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

³ *Daily Prayers for All Seasons, p. 15-16*

⁴ *NZ Lectionary*

GRADUAL HYMN

**Touch the earth lightly, use the earth gently,
nourish the life of the world in our care:
gift of great wonder, ours to surrender,
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.**

**We who endanger, who create hunger,
agents of death for all creatures that live,
we who would foster clouds of disaster,
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!**

**Let there be greening, birth from the burning,
water that blesses and air that is sweet,
health in God's garden, hope in God's children,
regeneration that peace will complete.**

**God of all living, God of all loving,
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,
teach us, deflect us, Christ re-connect us,
using us gently and making us one.**

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)
Tune: Tenderness, Colin Gibson. AA 143*

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Matthew, chapter eleven, beginning at verse sixteen.



Be a lamp to my feet.

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Be a light for my path. ⁵

SERMON

SILENCE

ANTHEM

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: Let us gather our hearts and minds in prayer;
prayer for our world and for God's people.

THE PEACE

Please stand for the Greeting of Peace.

Kia tau te rangimārie o te Atua 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.

OFFERTORY HYMN *

**Diverse in culture, nation, race,
we come together by your grace.
God, let us be a meeting ground
where hope and healing love are found.**

**God, let us be a bridge of care
connecting people everywhere.
Help us confront all fear and hate
and lust for power that separate.**

**When chasms widen, storms arise,
O, Holy Spirit, make us wise.
Let our resolve, like steel, be strong
to stand with those who suffer wrong.**

**God, let us be a table spread
with gifts of love and broken bread,
where all find welcome, grace attends,
and enemies arise as friends.**

*Words: Ruth C. Duck
Tune: Rockingham, melody adapted by E. Miller (1735-1807),
harm. D. Evans (1874-1948). TIS 342*

* *During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's.*

For electronic giving options:

1. *to make a fast one-off, or ongoing, donation to St Matthew-in-the-City text **stmatthew** to **818**, or **scan this QR code**:*
2. *use the Tap-n-Go terminal on top of the donation box.*



THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

Cantor **ALL**

Blessed are you God of all creation **through your good - ness**

we have these gifts to_ share. Bless'd be God for-ev - er.

Detailed description: This block contains two lines of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first line is for the Cantor, starting with a whole note G4. The second line is for 'ALL', starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The lyrics are: 'Blessed are you God of all creation through your good - ness we have these gifts to_ share. Bless'd be God for-ev - er.'

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Cantor **ALL**

May God be with you. **May the spir - it grant us wis - dom.**

Cantor **ALL**

Let us lift up our hearts. **We lift up our hearts in hope and praise.**

Cantor **ALL**

Let us give thanks to God. **We of-fer our lives in joy and prom - ise.**

Detailed description: This block contains three lines of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first line is for the Cantor, starting with a whole note G4. The second line is for 'ALL', starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The lyrics are: 'May God be with you. May the spir - it grant us wis - dom.' The third line is for the Cantor, starting with a whole note G4. The fourth line is for 'ALL', starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The lyrics are: 'Let us lift up our hearts. We lift up our hearts in hope and praise.' The fifth line is for the Cantor, starting with a whole note G4. The sixth line is for 'ALL', starting with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, C5, and D5. The lyrics are: 'Let us give thanks to God. We of-fer our lives in joy and prom - ise.'

In a city of a thousand strands,
laden with the sights and sounds of God's colourful people,
we meet the Creator and discover the mark of God
in both stranger and friend.

O God of many names, we give you thanks that you are both
mother and father to us all,
uniting the people of the city as sisters and brothers.

In a city of forgotten people and lost stories
help us to listen for your good news
amongst those left out or left behind in the busy rush.

We give thanks for Jeremiah who prayed for the city,
for it is here that we make our home and learn of you.

We give thanks for prophets like Deborah
who challenged the people and their leaders in the town square.

Fill our hearts with an image of your son Jesus
who embraces us as a brother
and throws his arms wide to welcome us all.

In the noise and in the silence, in the traffic and at home
we give thanks for his liberating presence as we sing:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, God of prom - ise and ful -



fil - ment, Heav - en and Earth a - bound with your grace.



Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, all cre - a - tion sings.



Bless'd is the One who comes in the name of God.



Ho - san - na, Ho - san - na, all cre - a - tion sings.

The city was crowded with people from across the world,
the faithful gathered in Jerusalem to celebrate Passover:
the festival of freedom.

Jesus and his friends rented a room above a busy street,
and there they shared a last meal together.

In the quiet of the night Jesus took a piece of bread,
gave thanks, broke it and said:

'This is my body which is given for you; do this to remember me.'

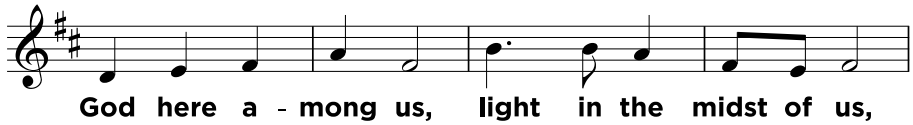
He meets the needs of a hungry city.

When everyone had finished eating

Jesus took a cup of Passover wine, gave thanks and said:

'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this to remember me.'

He quenches our thirst as we search for a holy city.⁶



Send your Holy Spirit that we who receive this bread
may indeed be the body of Christ,
and we who share this cup draw strength from the one true vine.
For you dwell in the heavenly city and make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.



Please be seated.

⁶ Chris Shannahan [2008], adapted

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.

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:



U - bi ca - ri - tas et a - mor,



u - bi ca - ri - tas De-us i - bi est.

Taizé, Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We bless you, generous God
abiding in every part of the city,
in each other, and in the stranger, who waits with us
for a place at the table of life.
May we also learn the way to make room for all. Amen.**⁷

BLESSING

NOTICES

⁷ Jenny Blood (1932-2022)

FINAL HYMN

**Give thanks for life, the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Give thanks for those who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame, bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who burned for what is right,
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**And for our own, our living and our dead,
thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
a love not changed by time or death or dread,
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain
lying in darkness does its life retain,
in resurrection to grow green again,
Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)

Tune: Sine Nomine, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). TIS 455

Deacon from the rear of the Church.

May the streets of our city be holy ground under your feet.
Go into the city, walking in faith and hope.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

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 Matthew Howes

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