



# **EASTER DAY**

**APRIL  
5  
2026**

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

## INTROIT

*Rise up, my love*

*Healey Willan (1880-1968)*

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**Christ is alive, and the universe must celebrate,  
and the stars and the suns shout out on this Easter Day!  
Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate  
in a great alleluia, a great alleluia  
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.**

**Here is our hope: in the mystery of suffering  
is the heartbeat of Love, Love that will not let go,  
here is our hope, that in God we are not separate,  
and we sing alleluia, we sing alleluia  
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.**

**Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity  
to the music of God, God who has set us free!  
You are the pulse of the new creation's energy;  
with a great alleluia, a great alleluia  
we praise the power that made the stone roll away.**

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)*

*Tune: Christ is Alive, Jillian Margaret Bray (1939-2018), AA 15*

# WELCOME

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

**All: 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:*

On this Easter Day,  
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.**

*Please be seated.*

# KYRIE

*from The St Paul Eucharist*

*Katherine Dienes-Williams*

# 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.**

# GLORIA

*from The St Paul Eucharist*

*Katherine Dienes-Williams*

## THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Psalm 118:24*

**Living Lord,  
whose love displaced the gravity of stone;  
you entrusted women,  
who loved beyond death,  
with news of resurrection:  
we praise you for the open gospel  
which ends where Easter faith begins;  
take us into this new world. Amen.<sup>1</sup>**

## THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

*Acts 10:34-43*

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

---

<sup>1</sup> *Steven Shakespeare, adapt.*

# THE GRADUAL HYMN

**Because you live, O Christ,  
the garden of the world has come to flower,  
the darkness of the tomb  
is flooded with your resurrection power -**

***The stone has rolled away  
and death cannot imprison!  
O sing this Easter Day,  
for Jesus Christ has risen,  
has risen, has risen, has risen!***

**Because you live, O Christ,  
the spirit bird of hope is freed for flying,  
our cages of despair  
no longer keep us closed and life-denying -**

***The stone has rolled away...***

**Because you live, O Christ,  
the rainbow of your peace will span creation,  
the colours of your love  
will draw all humankind to adoration -**

***The stone has rolled away...***

*Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020)  
Tune: Vruechten, melody from J. Oudaen's 'Psalter', Amsterdam, 1685  
harm. Charles Wood (1866-1926). TIS 381*

We turn to face the Gospel reader.

## THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to John,  
chapter twenty, beginning at verse one.



Hal - le - lu - jah, \_\_\_ hal-le-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

*John 20:1-18*

This is the Gospel of Christ.



Hal - le - lu - jah, \_\_\_ hal-le-lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! 2

## THE SERMON

## ANTHEM

*Alleluia*

*Randall Thompson (1899-1984)*

---

<sup>2</sup> Music: Michael CW Bell

# AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*Liturgist:*

Let us stand to affirm our resurrection faith.

**We believe in the power of Christ  
to overcome all deaths,  
deaths in us and death in the world.  
We believe in life which rises in freedom  
and carries us in joy towards grace  
beyond our imagining,  
calling our spirits to soar in freedom  
with wings of hope  
borne high in the wonder of Easter Day.  
The gift of life will never be taken from us.  
The costly life of God will be our company  
for ever and for ever.** <sup>3</sup>

*Please be seated.*

# THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.*

---

<sup>3</sup> Dorothy McRae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days"

# 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 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

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

**Blessed be God for ever.**

# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Lift your hearts to heaven

**where Christ in glory reigns.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing,  
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,  
God our Creator and Lover.

You make all things and call them 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.

You deliver us from captivity,  
and bring us to a land flowing with milk and honey.

You set before us the way of life.

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

# SANCTUS and BENEDICTUS

*from The St Paul Eucharist*

*Katherine Dienes-Williams*

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.  
By his baptism of suffering and death  
you give your church birth into a living hope.  
Raising Jesus from the dead, you make a new covenant with us,  
by water and the Spirit, and deliver us into freedom.  
We who were no people are now your people,  
declaring your wonderful deeds in Christ,  
who calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light.

On the night when he gave himself up for us,  
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 you raised him from the dead  
and revealed him to the women  
who came to the tomb to care for his body.  
On that day he was recognized by his disciples  
in the breaking of bread.

**Break the bread for freedom.**  
**Pour the wine for justice.**  
**Celebrate this meal for all the world,**  
**a meal of faith and hope,**  
**God's love, shared among us.**

And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus 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>4</sup>

**Blessing and honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. 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.**

---

<sup>4</sup> Richard Fabian, *St Gregory of Nyssa, San Francisco*

# 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.**

# AGNUS DEI

*from The St Paul Eucharist*

*Katherine Dienes-Williams*

# 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.*

*The centre chalice is for dipping only.*

*If you do not wish to take communion you may come forward for a blessing.*

*Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.*

*Te Kapu o te Ora. The cup of salvation.*

# MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

*Surrexit pastor bonus*

*Jean L'Héritier (1480-1551)*

*Ecce, vicit leo*

*Peter Philips (1560-1628)*

*He is risen*

*Richard Madden*

# 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 unshakable faith in the world you love.  
Amen.** <sup>5</sup>

# BLESSING

Go as those who are called  
to be Christ's witnesses to the ends of the earth.  
Go carrying life  
which springs forth in abundance in the darkest places,  
places which would deny the risen life of God;  
and the blessing of God  
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life  
be with you this day and always.  
**Amen.**

---

<sup>5</sup> *Steven Shakespeare*

## FINAL HYMN

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won;  
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes, where thy body lay.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.*

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
Let the church with gladness,  
hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord is living, death has lost its sting.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.*

**No more, we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;  
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.**

*Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.*

*Words: Edmond Louis Budry (1854-1932),  
tr. Richard Birch Hoyle (1875-1939)*

*Tune: Maccabaeus, adapted from George Frideric Handel (1685-1759). TIS 380*

*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

*Toccata (from Symphonie No. 5 in F minor)*

*Charles-Marie Widor (1845-1937)*

## MUSIC NOTES

Katherine Dienes-Williams has recently been appointed Director of Music at Winchester Cathedral. Her mass was composed over Christmas 1988–1989 at the request of Peter Godfrey and first performed informally at the Royal School of Church Music Summer School in Auckland in 1989, conducted by David Hill. It was later sung by the choir of Wellington Cathedral of St Paul. The work combines colourful harmony with lively mixed metres. Each movement has a distinct character: the Kyrie is expressive and yearning; the Gloria energetic and celebratory; the Sanctus short and rhythmically bright; the Benedictus reflective and gentle; and the Agnus Dei intense, using a pedal motif inspired by Benjamin Britten's *Missa Brevis*.

Alleluia was written in 1940 at the request of Serge Koussevitzky for the opening of the Berkshire Music Center at Tanglewood. The score reportedly arrived only minutes before the premiere, conducted by G. Wallace Woodworth. Although the text is simply 'Alleluia,' the music reflects the sombre mood of the early years of World War II. Marked *lento*, it unfolds slowly, using suspensions, sequences, with echoes of the Russian Orthodox choral tradition. Thompson carefully builds intensity before reaching a powerful climax and gradually returning to the hushed, reflective atmosphere of the opening.

Jean L'Héritier, born in the Pas-de-Calais region, was a prominent composer of the generation after Josquin des Prez. He worked across Italy, including Ferrara, Rome, Mantua, and Verona, before returning to France. His six-part motet *Surrexit pastor bonus* was preserved in a choirbook used by the choir of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican, showing the high regard for his music. The motet reflects the rich polyphonic style of the Renaissance.

*Translation: The good shepherd, who laid down his life for his sheep, has risen, alleluia. And he did not disdain to die for his flock, alleluia. For truly was Christ the Paschal Lamb sacrificed for us. Alleluia.*

Peter Philips was an English Catholic composer who left England in 1582 and later worked across Europe, including in Rome and Brussels. Once acquitted of an assassination plot against Elizabeth I, he eventually served in the household of Albert VII, Archduke of Austria in the Spanish Netherlands. One of the most widely published composers of his time, alongside William Byrd, Philips devoted much of his later career to sacred music. *Ecce vicit Leo* comes from his 1613 collection *Cantiones Sacrae*. Written for double choir, the motet demonstrates his mastery of the *stile antico* style and sets a triumphant biblical text.

*Translation: Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the root of David, hath prevailed to open the book and to loose the seven seals thereof. Alleluia. Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honour, and glory, and blessing. Alleluia.*

*The service is being live streamed –  
it shows only the altar area.*

---

TUESDAY 7 APRIL, 12.10 PM  
FIRST TUESDAY CONCERT SERIES

Lucas Schulze, *organ*  
(Germany)

Music by J. S. Bach,  
Dietrich Buxtehude,  
Jan Pieterszoon Sweelink and  
Georg Böhm

---

*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.***

*Hymns reproduced with permission  
under CCLI licence 637264  
Hymns and music livestreamed with  
permission under CCLI licence 1483113*

