

SUNDAY FEBRUARY



PROCESSIONAL HYMN

God, come now to explore my heart, to lead me deep within.
Help me descend the quiet path, and let me there begin to build my trust and face my dread of having all revealed: the needs ignored, the faults denied, the guilt and grief concealed.

God, enter now the hidden place with gently searching light; I freely give you keys to doors **kept far from others' sight.**Come, mend the broken, heal the hurt, speak peace to ease my shame, restore the good you see in me and call me by my name.

God, show the unsuspected gifts you placed there from the start. Your love now makes me bold to find the treasures in my heart, the missing parts of your design entrusted to my care; then lead me back to love and serve with all I have to share.

Words: Marnie Barrell

Tune: Ellacombe (2), melody from 'Mainz Gesangbuch', 1833. TiS 453

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.

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 (from Echo Mass)

Janet Jennings

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

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¹ ANZPB p.168

PSALM 22:23-31

Chant: Camidge

Give praise all you that fear the Lord, proclaim God's greatness, all you children of Jacob, stand in awe all you children of Israel.

For you O God have not despised or abhorred the poor in their affliction you have not hidden your face from them, but you heard them when they called to you.

You are the theme of my praise in the full assembly, my vows I will perform in the sight of those who fear you.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied those who seek you O Lord shall praise you, may they be in good heart for ever.

Let all the ends of the earth remember and turn to you O Lord and let all the families of the nations bow down before you.

For yours is the kingdom O Lord and you are the ruler over the nations.

As for those who sleep in the grave, how shall they worship you, all those who go down into the dust, how shall they bow before you?

But I shall live through you, and my children shall serve you, they shall tell of you to the generations that are yet to come.

To a people as yet unborn they shall make known the saving deeds you have done.

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Genesis.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

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

Thanks be to God.

² ANZPB p.458

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

1 Corinthians 13:12

God of dispossession, you rebuke our refusal to give up our idols; companion us that we might choose to take risk of life. Amen. 3

THE GRADUAL HYMN

We sing the song of God's great name God's dream of liberty unbinding all from grief and shame the song to set us free.

We aim to act on Love's behalf when evil would prevail. Give us the hands and hearts to serve to strive and not to fail.

Justice and peace will come about in Earth's community, when holiness in every part inspires humanity.

So sing the song of God's great name with hope and joyful praise.
God will greet all in every task enlightening all our days.

Words: Jenny Blood Tune: Richmond, later form of melody by Thomas Haweis (1734-1820), adapted by Samuel Webbe the younger (c.1770-1843).TiS 425

³ Steven Shakespeare (adapt.)

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Mark, chapter eight, beginning at verse thirty-one.



Mark 8:31-38

This is the Gospel of Christ.



THE SERMON

THE ANTHEM

Crux fidelis

John IV of Portugal (1604-1656)

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.

Please turn and greet those around you with peace.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN 4

The kingdom of God is justice and joy, for Jesus restores what sin would destroy; God's power and glory in Jesus we know, and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace, the captives are freed, the sinners find place, the outcast are welcomed God's banquet to share, and hope is awakened in place of despair.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal, in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole; the heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call, and all things cry 'Glory!' to God all in all.

The kingdom of God is justice and joy, for Jesus restores what sin would destroy; God's power and glory in Jesus we know, and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

Words: Byrn Austin Rees (1911-1983) Tune: Paderborn, later form of German traditional melody "Maria zu lieben" from "Paderborn Gesangbuch, 1765. TiS 470

⁴ During this hymn there is a collection to support St Matthew's. For electronic giving option:

text stmatthew 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. ⁵

Blessed be God forever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



⁵ Dorothy Mc Rae-McMahon "Liturgies for High Days" p.122

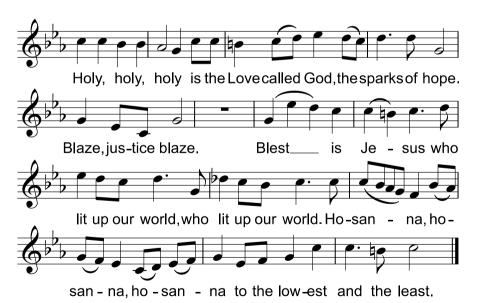
We thank you, desert Mother, for in the valley of dry bones you create hearts of flesh quickened by the Spirit's breath.

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:

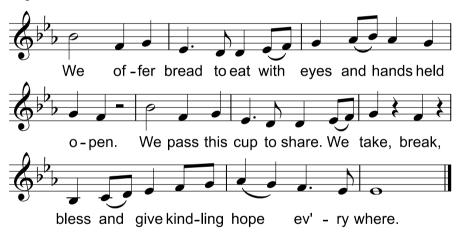


On the night that Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his faltering friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

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 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. 6

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 āianei 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. Āmine.

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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":



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 only will be distributed from two stations in front of the altar.

All are welcome to come and receive the bread; there are gluten free wafers, just ask the serving priest.

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

Funeral Sentences

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

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.

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

⁷ Jenny Blood

FINAL HYMN

Community of Christ, who made the cross your own, live out your creed and risk your life for God alone: the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds belong, whose children are of every race and every song.

Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry,
and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.

When menace melts away, so shall God's will be done, the climate of the world be peace and Christ its Sun; our currency be love and kindliness our law, our food and faith be shared as one forevermore.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020) Tune: Leoni, Hebrew Synagogue melody transcribed by Meyer Lyon (1751-1797), arr. Thomas Olivers (1725-1799). TiS 473 Deacon from the rear of the Church.

Go now to live the gospel, go in peace.

Amen. We go to serve in love.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Chorale Prelude "O Ewigkeit, du Donnerwort"

Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)

You are invited to keep this copy of the liturgy and take it home with you to share with another member of your family, or with a friend.

Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell

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