



FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

**MAY
18
2025**

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

INTROIT

Ubi caritas

Ola Gjeilo

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

**Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

**O let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes, in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.**

**Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

**And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace
till we become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes her dwelling.**

*Words: Bianca of Siena (c.1345 – c.1412)
tr. Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)*

Tune: Down Ampney, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958). Tis 398

WELCOME

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

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:

In this Easter season,
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.**

THE GLORIA



Praise the liv-ing God from the earth! Praise God from the heav-ens,



sun and moon, and shin-ing stars, praise the liv-ing God!

Praise the Holy Name,
whose word speaks all things into being,
who created the forces of the universe
and the laughter of children. Praise the Holy Name!



Praise the liv-ing God from the earth! Praise God from the heav-ens,



sun and moon, and shin-ing stars, praise the liv-ing God!

Praise the living God:

clouds and storms and ocean currents,
fish in the sea and creatures of the deep,
animals and cattle, insects and birds,
praise the living God!



Praise the liv-ing God from the earth! Praise God from the heav-ens,



sun and moon, and shin-ing stars, praise the liv-ing God!

Praise the Holy Name

who did not rely only on angels and messengers
but came among us in person, whose living presence saves us!
Praise God's Holy Name!



Praise the liv-ing God from the earth! Praise God from the



heav - ens, sun and moon, and shin-ing stars,



praise the liv-ing God! praise the liv-ing God!

1

Please be seated.

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.

THE SENTENCE AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Love one another, as I have loved you.

John 13:34

**Holy One, you call us to a new way of living,
a new heaven and a new earth.**

**Be with us as we strive to live out your love for all humanity,
that we may be known for our love. Amen.²**

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Acts 11:1-18

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

Thanks be to God.

THE GRADUAL HYMN

**Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life,
such a way as gives us breath,
such a truth as ends all strife,
such a life as killeth death.**

**Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength,
such a light as shows a feast,
such a feast as mends in length,
such a strength as makes his guest.**

**Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart,
such a joy as none can move,
such a love as none can part,
such a heart as joys in love.**

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)

Tune: The Call, R. V. Williams (1872-1958), adapt. by E. H. Geer (1886-1957). TiS 552

² *Harrison/McAlpine p 23*

THE GOSPEL

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



John 13:31-35

This is the Gospel of Christ.



THE SERMON

ANTHEM

And I saw a new heaven

Edgar Bainton (1880-1956)

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.

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.

THE OFFERTORY HYMN *

Help us accept each other
as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother,
each person to embrace.
Be present, God, among us
and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted
and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O God, your lessons,
as in our daily life
we struggle to be human
and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people,
for all - not just for some,
to love them as we find them
or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us,
so that we may be moved
in living situations
to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance
until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness
and laughter's healing art.

* 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.



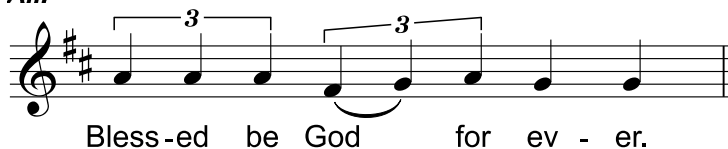
God, for today's encounters
 with all who are in need,
 who hunger for acceptance,
 for righteousness and bread,
 we need new eyes for seeing,
 new hands for holding on:
 renew us with your Spirit;
 God, free us, make us one!

*Words: Frederik Herman Kaan (1929-2009), adapted
 Tune: Aurelia, Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876). TiS 457*

THE PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS

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

All:



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

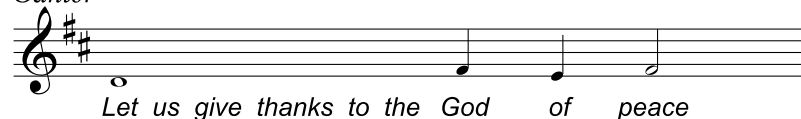
Cantor



Cantor



Cantor



All



It is right and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creating God.
In you all things are 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.

Your love delivers us from captivity,
and brings us into lands flowing with milk and honey.

You set before us the way of life.

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

4

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly One, God of po-wer and might

Heav'n and Earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho -san-na in the high-est.

2

Bless the One who comes in the pow'r of love. Ho-

3

san -na, Ho -san-na, Ho -san - na in the high - est!

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus.
 By his baptism and death
 you give your church birth into a living hope.
 In Christ, risen from death,
 you make a new covenant with us
 by water and the Spirit, and deliver us into freedom.
 We are now your resurrected people, the living body of Christ.
 declaring life, hope and justice.

On the last night Jesus shared a meal with his friends,
 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 he was revealed to the women
 and was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of bread.



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. ⁴



Kua akona nei tātou e to tātou Ariki, ka inoi tātou:

⁴ Richard Fabian, *St Gregory of Nyssa*, San Francisco, adapted

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:



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.*

Te Taro o te Ora. The bread of life.

Te Kapu o te Ora. The cup of salvation.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

What wondrous love

Trad., arr. by Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

The Greatest of These (from 'Philemon')

Harvey Schmidt (1929-2018)

Love divine

Howard Goodall

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 unshakeable faith in the world you love. Amen.** ⁵

THE BLESSING

God be your comfort, your strength;
God be your hope and support;
God be your light and your way;
and the blessing of God,
Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life,
remain with you now and for ever.
Amen.

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

**Now let us from this table rise
renewed in body, mind and soul;
with Christ we die and live again,
his selfless love has made us whole.**

**With minds alert, upheld by grace,
to spread the Word in speech and deed,
we follow in the steps of Christ,
at one with all in hope and need.**

⁵ *Steven Shakespeare*

**To fill each human house with love,
it is the sacrament of care;
the work that Christ began to do
we humbly pledge ourselves to share.**

**Then give us grace, Companion-God,
to choose again the pilgrim way,
and help us to accept with joy
the challenge of tomorrow's day.**

Words: Fred Kaan (1929-2009)

Tune: Solothurn, traditional Swiss melody, arr. Richard Lloyd. CAHO&N 472

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

Erschienen ist der herrliche Tag BWV 629

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

MUSIC NOTES

Edgar Bainton was a pupil of Stanford's at the Royal College of Music. He spent much of his life in Newcastle-upon-Tyne as a teacher and principal at the conservatoire, before taking up the position of director at the New South Wales State Conservatorium in Sydney. Although not a prolific composer, he did have some success with his operas in Australia. The anthem *And I saw a new heaven* is typical of Bainton's work in that he was attracted to late-romantic harmony without indulging in the folksong-influenced modal harmonies which characterize much of the music of his English contemporaries such as Vaughan Williams.

Written after the success of 'The Fantasticks' Tom Jones and Harvey Schmidt's little-known musical from the 1970s *Philemon* is dramatic and thought provoking. Set in Roman Antioch, it tells of a clown, Cockian, who is hired to impersonate a Christian priest in order to lure him out of hiding. He is eventually torn between saving his own life and the lives of countless others. 'The Greatest of These' is the musical's central theme song and takes its words directly from Paul's Letter to the Corinthians.

Love Divine was commissioned by the British Choir Schools' Association to celebrate the new millennium. Composer Howard Goodall writes that "although a seemingly odd choice of text (the original was published in 1747), I realised on looking at this wonderful set of verses afresh that it was possible to hear them with a slightly different lilt and accent - to put them into a contemporary context." *Love Divine* was first performed on 26 February 2000 in Oxford by the choir of Christ Church Cathedral, as part of a concert celebrating the founding 150 years before of the city of Christchurch, New Zealand, by a pioneer religious group from the Oxford college.

*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*
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Music for Liturgical responses is by Michael CW Bell

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