



THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

ANNUNCIATION

APRIL **14** 2024

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

INTROIT

Ka waiata ki a Maria

Richard Puanaki (1949-2021)

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, celebrate the women who brought the Church to birth! the gentle revolution that shall transform the earth: whose faith was salt and leaven, whose hearts and minds were free, and this was their direction – to peace and unity.

The teachers, saints and mothers who lived and died unsung kept safe the gospel story and taught it to the young; the Christ child Mary cradled, the living Word to be, was crucified for pleading this peace and unity.

Daughters of the disciples, you weave the story still, the fabric of the future with warmth and love and skill, you make the bread of wholeness, the wine of harmony – and all shall share your feasting in peace and unity!

> Words: Shirley Erena Murray (1931-2020) Tune: Ellacombe (1), melody from 'Mainz Gesangbuch', 1833. TiS 361

WELCOME

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

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

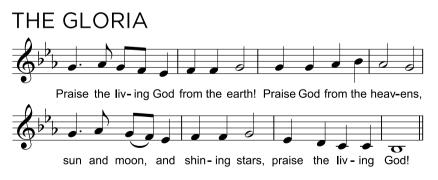
Grace to you and peace from God our Creator, the love at our beginning and without end, in our midst and with us.

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.



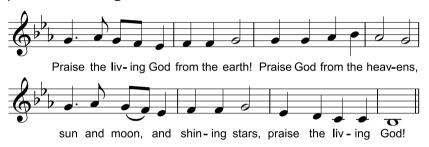
Praise the Holy Name,

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 living God:

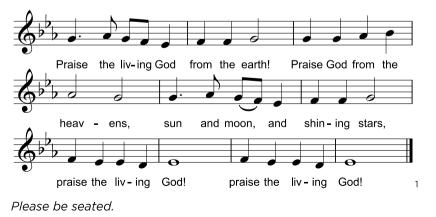
clouds and storms and ocean currents, fish in the sea and creatures of the deep, animals and cattle, insects and birds, praise the living God!



Praise the 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!



¹ Words: Brian Wren (adapted)

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

This young woman will become pregnant and will give birth. You will name the child Immanuel.

Isaiah 7:14

God of impossible love, announcing to us a new way of being, an unconventional birth: give us the faith of Mary to work with the Spirit of life; give us her perplexity, give us her deep thought which delves beyond the norm. Amen.²

THE FIRST READING

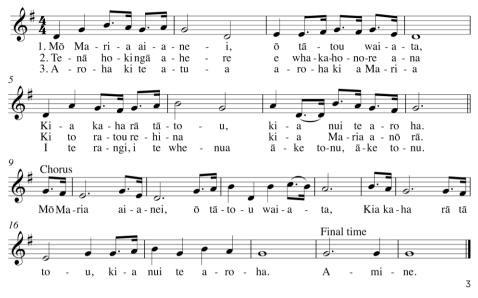
A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 7:10-14

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

² Steven Shakespeare, adapt

THE GRADUAL HYMN



Words: Attributed to Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier (1801-1871) Tune: Precious Name (Doane) W. H. Doane (1832-1918). Baptist Hymnal (2008) 313

THE GOSPEL

Hear the Gospel of Christ according to Luke, chapter one, beginning at verse twenty-six.



Luke 1:26-38

This is the Gospel of Christ.



³ For Mary now, our songs. Let us be strong, let there be great love. There are also the angels giving honour to their queen, to Mary. Love God, love Mary, in heaven and on earth, for ever and ever.

THE SERMON

ANTHEM

I will hold Him: An Annunciation Carol

Joanna Forbes L'Estrange

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 *

Mary, woman of the promise; vessel of your people's dreams: through your open, willing spirit waters of God's goodness streamed.

Mary, song of holy wisdom sung before the world began: faithful to the Word within you, as you bore God's wondrous plan.

Mary, morning star of justice; mirror of the Radiant Light: in the shadows of life's journey, be a beacon for our sight.

Mary, model of compassion; wounded by your offspring's pain: when our hearts are torn by sorrow, teach us how to love again.

Mary, woman of the gospel; humble home for treasured seed: help us to be true disciples, bearing fruit in word and deed.

Words: Mary Frances Fleischaker Tune: Quem Pastores. German Carol, 14th Century. Harm. R. V. Williams (1872-1958) New Century Hymnal 123

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

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

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



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,

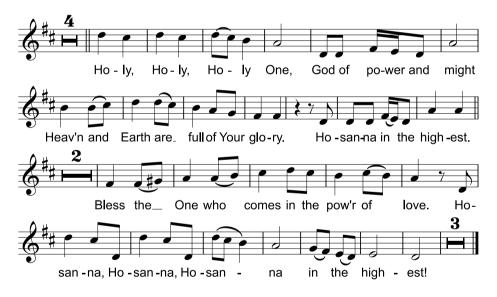
your love remains steadfast.

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:



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,

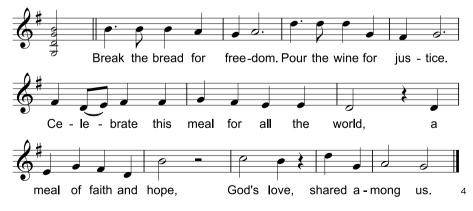
which is shed for you and for all,

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.



⁴ Words by Jenny Blood (1932-2022)

And so, remembering these your mighty acts in Jesus the 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. ⁵



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, ake. Āmine.

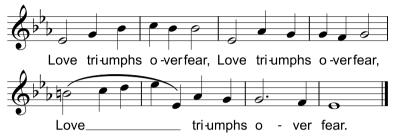
⁵ Richard Fabian, St Gregory of Nyssa, San Francisco, adapted

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.

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

O viridissima virga

Hildegard von Bingen (1098-1179)

Ave Maria

Robert Parsons (1535-1571)

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. ⁶

THE BLESSING

NOTICES

FINAL HYMN

Tell out, my soul, the greatness that I've heard unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice: tender to me the promise of God's Word; in God, my Chosen, shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's name: make known God's might, the deeds God's arm has done; God's mercy sure, from age to age the same; God's holy name, Creator, Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's might; powers and dominions lay their glory by: proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight; the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of God's Word; firm is God's promise, and God's mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness that I've heard: to children's children and for evermore.

> Words: adapted by Timothy Dudley-Smith Tune: Woodlands, Walter Greatorex (1877-1949). TiS 161

⁶ Steven Shakespeare

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, Fugue and Hymn on "Ave Maris Stella" Op.28 Flor Peeters (1903-1986)

MUSIC NOTES

Joanna Forbes L'Estrange is a British singer, composer and choir director. Beginning with the familiar story of the angel Gabriel coming to Galilee to bring Mary the news that she will bear God's son, the verses thereafter take the form of a conversation between Gabriel (Tenors and Basses) and Mary (Sopranos and Altos). The turning point comes at verse 5 when Mary repeats the words which the angel has just spoken but in the first person, indicating her willingness to accept God's calling. For the final section of the piece, Mary communes directly with God through prayer. The metre changes from the folky 6/8 to a freer *colla voce* at which point the choir resumes its verse 1 role of narrator.

Ave Maria has become Parsons' most famous and well-loved motet. Settings of the Ave Maria are not frequent in pre-Reformation England. Parsons simply sets the lines found in the Gospel of St Luke and has no invocation for the dead (authorized by Pope Pius V in 1568). This is a magical setting and it is not surprising that there is a beautiful 'Amen' coda. Initially the piece gives the impression of using a cantus firmus in the top part but it is in fact free-composed throughout. Parsons starts each phrase one note higher than the previous one, before reaching a climax at 'benedicta tu'. Paul Doe has suggested that this piece might have been prompted by the early promise or subsequent plight of Mary, Queen of Scots. There is no direct evidence for this but it is not unreasonable to consider Parsons and many of the other mid-sixteenth-century composers (Sheppard, Tallis, White, Mundy and Tye) as Catholic sympathizers. They seem more free, more expressive, more expansive and more brave in their Latin compositions.

Translation: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you, you are blessed among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. Amen.

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 Michael CW Bell

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