



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

encompassing
St Matthew's, Hastings
& St Peter's, Riverslea

Christian communities in the heart of Hastings



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4th February 2024



Our service begins on page 476 of
A New Zealand Prayer Book
- *He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*

Opening Hymn:

**Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird:
praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass:
praise for the sweetness pf the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where his feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play:
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!**

Eleanor Farjeon © David Higham Assoc. Ltd.

The Collect

Almighty God,
you have called us to serve you,
yet without your grace we are not able to please you;
**mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Readings

First reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

The prophet's message to the Jews, who have been forcibly exiled to Babylon, is to look beyond their plight, and wonder at the creative power of God.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 147:1-11, 20c

Whakamoemititia a Ihowā, / Praise the Lord,
for it is good to sing praises to our God:
how pleasant and seemly it is to praise the Most High.

You Lord are rebuilding Jerusalem:
and gathering the scattered exiles of Israel.

You are healing the broken-hearted:
and binding up their wounds.

You count the number of the stars:
and call them all by their names.

Great are you O Lord, and mighty your power:
yes, and your wisdom is infinite.

You raise up the lowly:
and bring down the wicked to the dust.

Sing to the Lord in thanksgiving:
make music on the harp to our God,

who covers the sky with clouds,
and prepares rain for the earth:
**making the hills green with grass
and with plants for human use.**

You O Lord give the cattle their food:
and the young ravens when they call to you.

You set no store by the power of a horse:
nor by the strength of a warriors thighs.

But your delight is in those who revere you:
in those who rely on your mercy.

Whakamoemititia a Ihowā.
O praise the Lord.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

Paul's apostleship has been criticised by the Corinthians. He tries to show that his role is to preach the gospel to all people.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn:

**We give God thanks for those who knew
the touch of Jesus' healing love;
they trusted him to make them whole,
to give them peace, their guilt remove.**

**We offer prayer for all who go
relying on God's grace and power,
to help the anxious and the ill,
to heal their wounds, their lives restore.**

**We dedicate our skills and time
to those who suffer where we live,
to bring such comfort as we can
to meet their need, their pain relieve.**

**So Jesus' touch of healing grace
lives on within our willing care;
by thought and prayer and gifts we prove
his mercy still, his love we share.**

Michael Perry (1942 - 1996) © Mrs B Perry/Jubilate Hymns Tune MELCOMBE

We remain standing

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:29-39

Praise and glory to God.

Mark describes what may be a typical day in Jesus' ministry of healing and teaching.

After the reading:

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word.

Prayers of the People

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

Offertory Hymn:

Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the king of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear; brothers and sisters draw near,
praise him in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, above all things so mightily reigning;
keeping us safe at his side and so gently sustaining.
Have you not seen all you have needed has been
met by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who when darkness and sin are abounding,
who when the godless are rampant, all goodness confounding,
shines with his light, scatters the terror of night,
safely his people surrounding.

Praise to the Lord, who shall prosper our work and defend us;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend us.
Ponder anew what the almighty can do,
who with his love will befriend us.

Praise to the Lord - O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the 'Amen!' sound from his people again;
gladly with praise we adore him!

Final Hymn:

God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel-day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

Saviour, who once came to bring,
un your redeeming wing,
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind:
Oh, now to humankind
let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
Speed forth your flight!
move on the water's face,
bearing the lamp of grace
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!

Holy and blessed Three,
glorious Trinity,
wisdom, love, might:
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light!

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.
Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

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