

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

Christian communities in the heart of Hastings



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time 11th February 2024

Our service begins on page 456 of A New Zealand Prayer Book - He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa

Opening Hymn:

Where mountains rise to open skies your name, O God, is echoed far, from island beach to kauri's reach, in water's light, in lake and star.

Your people's heart, your people's part be in our caring for this land, for faith to flower, for aroha to let each other's mana stand.

From broken word, from conflict stirred, from lack of vision, set us free to see the line of your design, to feel creation's energy.

Your love be known, compassion shown, that every child have equal scope: in justice done, in trust begun shall be our heritage and hope.

Where mountains rise to open skies your way of peace distil the air, your spirit bind all humankind, one covenant of life to share!

Shirley Murray - Words © 1993 Hope Publishing Company, 380 S Main Pl, Carol Stream, IL 60188

The Collect

Mighty God, strong, loving and wise, help us depend upon your goodness and to place our trust in your Son. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

The Readings

First reading: 2 Kings 5:1-14 The story of the cure of Naaman from leprosy.

After the reading:

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

Psalm 30

I will extol you O Lord for you have lifted me up: you have not let my enemies triumph over me.

O Lord my God I cried to you for help: and you have restored my health.

Lord you have brought me back from the dead: you have saved my life from among those going down to the Abyss.

Let all your servants sing praises to you O Lord: **and give thanks to your holy name.**

For your anger is but for a moment, and in your kindness is life: tears may linger at nightfall, but joy comes with the dawn.

In my prosperity I said, 'I shall never be shaken: your favour O Lord has made me as firm as any strong mountain.'

You turned your face away from me: and I was greatly dismayed.

I called to you O God: **to the Lord I made my appeal.**

'What profit is there in my death: **in my going down to the grave?**

'Will the dust give you praise: or will it proclaim your faithfulness?

'Hear O Lord, and be gracious to me: **O Lord be my helper'**

You have turned my mourning into dancing: you have stripped off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,

so that my heart shall sing your praise without ceasing: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you for ever.

Second reading: 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Paul emphasises the importance of self-discipline in the life of a Christian.

After the reading: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Hymn:

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life. *Taizé* #9

We remain standing

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 1:40-45 **Praise and glory to God.**

The healing of a leper by Jesus and the fame which follows him.

After the reading: This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ the Word.**

Prayers of the People

During the prayers: Loving God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Offertory Hymn:

Take our bread, we ask you, Take our hearts, we love you, Take our lives, oh Father, We are yours, we are yours. (*Repeat*)

Yours as we stand at the table you set, Yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget. We are the signs of your life with us yet; We are yours, we are yours. *Refrain*...

Your holy people stand washed in your blood, Spirit-filled, yet hungry, we await your food. Poor though we are, we have brought ourselves to you: We are yours, we are yours. *Refrain*... (Words: Joseph Wise)

Final Hymn:

Praise to the living God, the God of Love and light, whose Word brought forth the myriad suns and set the worlds in flight; whose infinite design, which we but dimly see, pervades all nature, making all a cosmic unity.

Praise to the living God, from whom all things derive, whose Spirit formed upon this sphere

the first faint seeds of life; who caused them to evolve, unwitting, to God's goal, Till humankind stood on the earth, as living, thinking souls. Praise to the living God, who knows our joy and pain, who shares with us our common life, the sacred and profane. God partners us in work, in home and farm and mill; And deep within the human heart God leads us forward still.

Praise to the living God, around, within, above, Beyond the grasp of human mind,

but whom we know as Love. In these uncertain days, of hope and fear and strife, may we bear witness to the Way, O source and goal of life.

Curtis Beach, adapted - Tune: DIADEMATA (Crown him with many crowns)

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

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