



# The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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

*Christian communities in the heart of Hastings*

**10<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

FOURTH SUNDAY IN  
LENT

## ***The Gathering of the Community***

*Opening Hymn:*

To God be the glory, great things he has done;  
so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain:*

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
and give him the glory, great things he hath done.

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
to every believer the promise of God;  
the vilest offender who truly believes,  
that moment from Jesus a pardon receives. [*Refrain*]

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
but purer, and higher and greater will be  
our wonder, our gladness, when Jesus we see. [*Refrain*]

I runga i te Ingoa o te Atua,  
te Matua, te Tama me te Wairua Tapu. **Amine.**

The Lord be with you  
**The Lord bless you.**

The Son of Man must be lifted up,  
that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. *John 3:14-15*

*We sit or kneel*

God our Creator, you have made all things good,  
but we do not love you with all our heart,  
and with all our soul, and with all our mind,  
and with all our strength.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

Jesus our friend, you forgive our sins,  
but we do not forgive and befriend each other.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

Holy Spirit, you love us and live in us,  
but we often find it difficult to love ourselves.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

God has promised forgiveness to all who truly repent,  
turn to Christ in faith and are themselves forgiving.

In silence we call to mind our sins.

*Silence*

Let us confess our sins.

**Merciful God,  
we have sinned  
in what we have thought and said,  
in the wrong we have done  
and in the good we have not done.  
We have sinned in ignorance:  
we have sinned in weakness:  
we have sinned through our own deliberate fault.  
We are truly sorry.  
We repent and turn to you.  
Forgive us, for our Saviour Christ's sake,  
and renew our lives to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Through the cross of Christ,  
God have mercy on you,  
pardon you  
and set you free.  
Know that you are forgiven  
and be at peace.  
God strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in life eternal. **Amen.**

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts.  
**The word of Christ dwell in us richly.**

Most merciful God,  
by the passion of your Son Jesus Christ  
you delivered us from the power of darkness;  
**grant that through faith in him  
who suffered on the cross  
we may be found acceptable in your sight,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### ***The Proclamation***

*First reading: Numbers 21:4–9*

*The serpents bring havoc to complaining, hungry Hebrews. Moses creates a bronze serpent as an antidote, a symbol still used in the pharmaceutical industry.*

*After the reading:*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Psalm 107:1–3, 17–22*

‘O give thanks, for the Lord is gracious:  
God’s steadfast love endures for ever.’

**So let the people say whom the Lord has redeemed:  
whom the Lord has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,**

and gathered out of the lands, from the east and from the west:  
from the north and from the south.

**Some were sick because of their sins:  
afflicted on account of their wrongdoing.**

They loathed every kind of food:  
and drew near to the gates of death.

**Then they cried to you O Lord in their trouble:  
and you rescued them from their distress.**

You sent forth your word and healed them:  
and saved their life from the grave.

**Let them thank you O Lord for your steadfast love:  
for the wonders that you do for us.**

Let them offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving:  
and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

*Second reading: Ephesians 2:1–10*  
*We are saved by God's free gift.*

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

*Gospel Hymn:*

**Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found;  
was blind, but now I see.**

**God's grace first taught my heart to fear,  
his grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!**

**Through every danger, trial and snare  
I have already come;  
his grace has brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.**

**The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
my shield and stronghold he shall be  
as long as life endures.**

**And when this earthly life is past,  
and mortal cares shall cease,  
I shall possess with Christ at last  
eternal joy and peace.**

*We remain standing*

The Holy Gospel according to John 3:14–21  
**Praise and glory to God.**

*John makes reference to today's first reading. But it is Christ lifted up on the cross that is salvation for all, despite people's rejection of him.*

*After the reading:*

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ the Word.**

### ***The Sermon***

#### ***Prayers of the People***

God of love and goodness, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

#### ***The Peace***

Christ is our peace.

He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

**And also with you.**

#### ***The Preparation of the Gifts***

*Offertory Hymn:*

**From heaven you came, helpless babe;  
entered our world, your glory veiled.  
Not to be served but to serve  
and give your life that we might live.**

*Refrain:*

**This is our God, The Servant King,  
he calls us now to follow him,  
to bring our lives as a daily offering  
of worship to The Servant King.**

**There in the garden of tears  
my heavy load he chose to bear  
his heart with sorrow was torn  
yet 'Not my will but yours,' he said. [Refrain]**

**Come see his hands and his feet,  
the scars that speak of sacrifice.  
Hands that flung stars into space  
to cruel nails surrendered. [Refrain]**

**So let us learn how to serve  
and in our lives enthrone him;  
each other's needs to prefer,  
for it is Christ we're serving. [Refrain]**

*Words and music by Graham Kendrick. Tune: THE SERVANT KING*

To you, Lord, belongs the greatness,  
and the power, and the glory,  
and the victory and the majesty.  
**All that is in the heavens and the earth is yours,  
and of your own we give you.**

### ***The Great Thanksgiving***

*We remain standing though feel free to sit if needs be.*

The Lord is here.  
**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to offer thanks and praise.**

Honour and worship are indeed your due,  
our Lord and our God, through Jesus Christ,  
for you created all things;  
by your will they were created,  
and for your glory they have their being.

In your loving purpose you chose us  
before the foundation of the world  
to be your people;  
you gave your promises to Abraham and Sarah  
and bestowed your favour on the Virgin Mary.

Above all we give you thanks and praise  
for your grace in sending Jesus Christ,  
not for any merit of our own  
but when we had turned away from you.

We were bound in sin,  
but in your compassion you redeemed us,  
reconciling us to yourself with the precious blood of Christ.

In your Son you suffered with us and for us,  
offering us the healing riches of salvation  
and calling us to freedom and holiness.  
Though tempted in every way as we are, yet he did not sin;  
through him therefore we may triumph over sin and grow in grace.

Therefore with people of every nation, tribe and language,  
with the whole Church on earth and in heaven,  
joyfully we give you thanks and say:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and honour to you, God of grace,  
for you gave your only Son Jesus Christ  
once for all on the cross  
to be the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world,  
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.  
The night before he died,  
he took bread, and when he had given you thanks,  
he broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:  
Take, eat,  
this is my body which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup,  
and when he had given you thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:



Drink this, all of you,  
for this is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this as often as you drink it,  
to remember me.

Therefore heavenly Father,  
in this sacrament of the suffering and death of your Son,  
we now celebrate the wonder of your grace  
and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come in glory.**

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness,  
we were far off until you brought us near  
and our hands are empty until you fill them.  
As we eat this bread and drink this wine,  
through the power of your Holy Spirit  
feed us with your heavenly food,  
renew us in your service,  
unite us in Christ,  
and bring us to your everlasting kingdom.  
O the depths and riches of your wisdom, O God;  
how unsearchable are your judgments  
and untraceable your ways.

**From you, and through you, and for you are all things.  
To you be the glory for ever. Amen.**

### ***The Communion***

As Christ teaches us we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

*The priest breaks the bread in silence and then says*

We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,  
for we all share the one bread.**

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer of the world, give us your peace.**

### ***The Invitation***

Haere mai e te kāhui a te Atua,  
tangohia ēnei kai rangatira a te Karaiti.

*Come God's people,  
come to receive Christ's heavenly food.*

### ***Prayer after Communion, The Blessing, and The Dismissal***

Faithful God,  
in this communion  
you increase our faith and hope and love.  
**Lead us in the path of Christ  
who is your Word of life.**

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourself, and to take up your cross and follow him, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you for ever.  
**Amen.**

*Final Hymn:*

**Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone.  
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; you are my own.  
In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.  
Go, my children, with my blessing - You are my own.**

**Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
Here you touched him, saw his glory.  
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.**

**Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;  
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.  
Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
Here my tender comfort stilled you.  
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.**

**I the Lord will bless and keep you and give you peace;  
I the Lord will smile upon you and give you peace;  
I the Lord will be your Father,  
Saviour, Comforter, and Brother.  
Go, my children; I will keep you and give you peace.**

*(Jaroslav J. Vajda) tuen: Ar Hyd Y Nos (All Through the Night)*

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

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