



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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

Provoking faith in Hastings communities



18th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4th August 2024



Our service begins on page 404 of
A New Zealand Prayer Book
- *He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*

Opening Hymn:

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;
most holy, most glorious, the ancient of days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, you rule us in might;
your justice like mountains high soaring above
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all life you give, Lord, to both great and small,
in all life you live, Lord, the true life of all:
we blossom and flourish, uncertain and frail;
we wither and perish, but you never fail.**

**We worship before you, great Father of light,
While angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
our praises we render, O Father to you
whom only the splendour of light hides from view.**

The Gathering of the Community: page 404

The Collect

Heavenly Father,
you see how your children hunger for food,
and fellowship and faith.

**Help us to meet one another's needs
of body mind and spirit,
in the love of Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

The Proclamation: page 409

The Readings

First reading: Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

The story of God's feeding of the people in the wilderness.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 78:23-29

Yet you commanded the clouds above:
and opened the doors of heaven.

**You rained down manna for them to eat:
and gave them the grain of heaven.**

So mortals ate the bread of angels:
you sent them food in abundance.

**You made the east wind blow from heaven:
and brought in the south wind through your power.**

You rained food upon them as thick as dust:
winged birds like the sand of the sea.

**You let it fall in the midst of the camp:
all around the tents where they dwelt.**

So the people ate, and had their fill:
for you had given them what they craved.

A reading from Ephesians 4:1-16

The new Christians in Ephesus are urged to lead lives of patient love, using their varying gifts in the unity of the Spirit, while growing towards their maturity in Christ.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn:

**Loving Shepherd of your sheep,
keep us all, in safety keep;
nothing can your power withstand,
none can pluck us from your hand.**

**Loving Lord, you chose to give
your own life that we might live,
and your hands outstretched to bless,
bear the cruel nails' impress.**

**Help me praise you every day,
gladly serve you and obey,
like your glorious ones above
happy in your precious love.**

**Loving Shepherd, ever near,
teach us all your voice to hear,
let my footsteps never stray
from the true and narrow way.**

**Where you lead me I will go,
walking in your steps below,
till, before my Father's throne
I shall know as I am known.**

We remain standing

The Holy Gospel according to John 6:24-35

Praise and glory to God.

Jesus tells the crowd of the true bread of life, the bread from heaven.

After the reading:

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word.

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith: page 410

Prayers of the People

During the prayers:

Jesus, in your mercy,
hear the prayers we offer.

The Peace: page 419

Offertory Hymn:

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!
his the sceptre, his the throne:
Alleluia! his the triumph,
his the victory alone.
Hear the songs of holy Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
'Jesus out of every nation
has redeemed us by his blood!'

Alleluia! not as orphans
are we left in sorrow now:
Alleluia! he is near us;
faith believes, but knows not how.
Though the cloud from sight received him
whom the angels now adore,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia! bread of heaven,
here on earth our food, our stay:
Alleluia! here the sinful
come to you from day to day.
Intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, plead for me,
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal,
you, the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heaven your throne:
you, within the veil have entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;
yours the blood and yours the body,
in our eucharistic feast.

Communion

Communion is offered in both kinds (bread and wine) though feel free to receive only the bread.

We do not, for health reasons, dip the bread in the wine.

Final Hymn:

**Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.**

**Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore!**

**Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.**

**Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.**

**Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you.**

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

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