

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

Provoking faith in Hastings communities



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time 6th October 2024

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

Opening Hymn:

Praise to the holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise; in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways!

O loving wisdom of our God! when all was sin and shame, a second Adam to the fight and to the rescue came.

O wisest love! that flesh and blood, which did in Adam fail, should strive afresh against the foe, should strive, and should prevail;

And that the highest gift of grace should flesh and blood refine: God's presence and his very self, and essence all-divine.

O generous love! that he who came as man to smite our foe, the double agony for us as man should undergo:

And in the garden secretly, and on the cross on high, should teach his brethren, and inspire to suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height, and in the depth be praise; in all his words most wonderful, most sure in all his ways

The Gathering of the Community: page 404

The Collect

God, the mother and father of us all, you have created families and love of every kind. Give us courage to listen to each other and to learn, and grant us the gentle blessing which a home can give. Praise to you our God; you answer prayer. Amen

The Proclamation (page 409)

The Readings

First reading: Job 1:1; 2:1-10

The first two chapters of this book of Hebrew poetry set the scene for an extended reflection on the nature of suffering.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 26

Give judgment O Lord in my favour, for I have walked the way of integrity: and I have put unwavering trust in the Lord.

Examine me O Lord and try me: put my heart and my mind to the test.

For your steadfast love is ever before my eyes: and I walk in the way of your faithfulness.

I do not sit down with people who are false: **nor do I consort with hypocrites.**

I hate the company of wrongdoers: and will not sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence O Lord: and so will I go around your altar,

singing a song of thanksgiving: and proclaiming all your wonders.

Lord I love the house you have made your home: the place where your glory dwells.

Do not sweep me away with sinners: **nor my life with those who thirst for blood,**

whose fingers are active in mischief: and whose right hand is full of bribes.

But as for me, I will walk the way of integrity: deliver me and show me your favour.

My foot stands firm on level ground: in the full assembly I will praise the Lord.

A reading from Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Written late in the 1st century, the letter to the Hebrews is an essay on God's purpose for humanity through the work of Jesus Christ. God's glory is revealed in Christ's humanity.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn:

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us your humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies crown. Jesus, you are all compassion, pure, unbounded love impart; visit us with your salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all your grace receive; suddenly return, and never, never more your temples leave.

We would always give you blessing, serve you as your hosts above, pray, and praise you without ceasing, glory in your perfect love.

Finish then your new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see your great salvation, perfect in eternity:

Changed from glory into glory till in heaven we take our place, there to sing salvation's story lost in wonder, love, and praise!

We remain standing

The Holy Gospel according to Mark 10:2-16 **Praise and glory to God.**

Jesus, asked about divorce, reaches back to the creation story to set before his hearers the ideal of the marriage relationship, and then blesses children.

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 (page 413)

The Peace (page 419)

Offertory Hymn:

Now to your table spread we come, each one, in faith that you alone provide the words of life or death: in wine and bread, in promised food we find your loving heart, O God.

Hands of the world stretch out your mystery to touch in longing to believe a truth beyond our reach, to sing in joy, to cry in grief, to know your meaning for our life.

Here is our common wealth in sharing what is good, as though all humankind around one table stood, this bread to break, this wine to taste – one people in the name of Christ.

(Shirley Erena Murray, Words © 1987 Hope Publishing Company)

The Great Thanksgiving (page 420)

The 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:

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

till all the world adore his glorious name!

Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout! if we are silent, even stones cry out. *Refrain*...

Jesus, you wept to see our human strife, teach us compassion for each human life. *Refrain*...

Peace was your plea, and peace your loving theme, let peace be our passport, peace a living dream. *Refrain*

Great is the cost of walking on this road, to follow and suffer with the Son of God. *Refrain...*

Worlds to be born and children yet to be come, take up this song into eternity. *Refrain...*

George William Kitchin, Shirley Erena Murray Words © 1974 and 1992; 1974 Hope Publishing Company

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