



The Reign of Christ Sunday 24th November 2024 Presider:

'I am the Alpha and the Omega - the beginning and the end; says the Lord God, the Almighty One. Revelation 1: 8a,c

We stand

Opening Hymn: Hail to the Lord's Anointed

Voices United: The Hymn and Worship Book of The United Church of Canada #30 Tune: **ELLACOMBE**

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
God's reign on earth begun!
Christ comes to break oppression, to set the captive free; to take away transgression, and rule in equity.

- Christ comes with justice surely to those who suffer wrong, to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong, to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in his sight.
- Christ shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth.

 Before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go, and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.
- To him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend, his kingdom still increasing, a kingdom without end.

The tide of time shall never his covenant remove.
His name shall stand for ever: that name to us is Love.

The Gathering

The Presider may greet the people informally before continuing

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

(In the name of God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen)

Grace to you and peace from God our Creator, the love at our beginning and without end, in our midst and with us.

God is with us, here we find new life.

Let us give thanks for the coming of God's reign of justice and love.

Jesus Christ is good news for the poor, release for the captives, recovery of sight for the blind and liberty for those who are oppressed.

Song of Praise: The Song of the Church [Te Deum Laudamus]

- We praise you O God: we acclaim you as the Lord.
- All creation worships you: the Father everlasting.
- To you all angels, all the powers of heaven: cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise,
- ⁴ 'Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full of your glory.'

- The glorious company of apostles praise you: the noble fellowship of prophets praise you, the white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
- Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father, of majesty unbounded,
- your true and only Son, worthy of all worship: and the Holy Spirit, our advocate and guide.
- You Christ are the king of glory: the eternal Son of the Father.
- When you became incarnate to set us free: you humbly accepted the Virgin's womb.
- You overcame the sting of death: and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers.
- You are seated at God's right hand in glory: we believe that you will come to be our judge.
- 12 Come then Lord and help your people: bought with the price of your own blood,
- and bring us with your saints: to glory everlasting.

We sit or kneel

Invitation to Confession:

God's love is shown for us in this: while we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

In a moment of silence, we call to mind God's love for us, and our need for God's forgiveness.

Silence

Jesus, you came to call us to repentance. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, you come in word and sacrament to share your abundant life. Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Jesus, you will come again in glory to renew the whole creation. Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Silence

Gracious God, for whom we watch and wait as we journey through this earthly life; forgive us, cleanse us, heal us, and set us free, so that we may come to share in your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen

The Absolution

Presider: God forgives you;

forgive others; forgive yourself.

Silence

Through Christ, God has put away your sin:

approach your God in peace.

Amen.

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

The word of Christ dwell in us richly.

Sentence: Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and

wealth and wisdom and might and honour and glory and

blessing! Revelation 5:12

Collect of the Day:

Christ our Redeemer,
you have crushed the serpent's head;
you have freed us from our sin;
rescue all your suffering world from evil
that attracts us still.
Hear this prayer for your name's sake.

Amen.

Reading: **Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14**

After the Reading: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 93 (ANZPB)

You O Lord are king, you are clothed in majesty: you have robed yourself, and put on the girdle of strength.

- You have made the world so firm: that it can never be moved.
- Your throne O Lord has stood firm from of old: from all eternity you are God.
- The waters have lifted up O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice: the waters lift up their pounding waves.
- Mightier than the noise of great waters, mightier than the waves of the sea: so the Lord on high is mighty.
- Truly your law stands firm:
 holiness O Lord adorns your house for ever.

Reading: Revelation 1: 4-8

After the Reading: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: Christ is surely coming

Christopher Idle from Revelation 22 © Christopher Idle/Jubilate Hymns Ltd Church Family Worship #598 - tune: LAND OF HOPE AND GLORY

Christ is surely coming bringing his reward, Alpha and Omega, First and Last and Lord: Root and stem of David, brilliant Morning Star: meet your Judge and Saviour, nations near and far; meet your Judge and Saviour, nations near and far!

- See the holy city! There they enter in, all by Christ made holy, washed from every sin: thirsty ones, desiring all he loves to give, come for living water, freely drink, and live; come for living water, freely drink, and live!
- Grace be with God's people! Praise God's holy name! Father, Son, and Spirit, evermore the same. Hear the certain promise from the eternal home: "Surely I come quickly!" Come, Lord Jesus, come; "Surely I come quickly!" Come, Lord Jesus, come!

Gospel Reading: John 18: 33-37

The Holy Gospel according to John,

chapter eighteen, beginning at the thirty-third verse.

Praise and glory to God.

After the reading: This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ, the Word.

The Sermon

The Sermon is followed by a moment of silence and/or musical reflection.

<u>Carol:</u> A Carol for Stirring-up a Christmas Pudding

Words: © 2002, Norman J Goreham Used by permission CCLI Song # 6375865 Alt. Tune: **TALLIS CANON** or **OLD 100**TH

Stir the pudding, sisters, brothers; God has blessed us - think of others. Fruit aplenty in the mixture gives it body, gives it texture. Stir your people, God who made us; let inertia not degrade us! Fruit aplenty in our living, make us caring and self-giving.

Affirmation of Faith - The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world, giving thanks for God's goodness.

We sit or kneel

V: ... and, in your mercy:

R: Hear our prayer.

(from 'Let Us Pray' - Janet Nelson)

The Ministry of the Sacrament

We stand

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you. And also with you.

As we sing the next Hymn, the bread and wine are brought to the altar; our offerings for the Foodbank and money to support ministry and mission are collected and presented also.

Offertory Hymn: Christ is the Truth, the Way

Words: Ruth Duck © 2018 GIA Publications

Tune: **DIADEMATA**

- 1 Christ is the truth, the way,
 the endless light of life.
 Christ shares the struggles of our day,
 our earthly joy and strife.
 Redeeming what is lost,
 and healing human pain,
 Christ walks the valleys of the cross,
 that all may rise again.
- Christ is the living bread and source of grace outpoured; our deepest hungers shall be fed and life will be restored. All those who thirst rejoice, by living water filled. The good shall welcome with one voice the justice God has willed.
- Christ sends the Spirit now,
 that we may all be one,
 all people joining hands in love
 that justice will be done.
 The lion shall lie down
 in peace beside the lamb.
 The mighty shall lay down their crowns
 before the great 'I Am".

Christ is the gift of love,
 forgiveness, joy, and grace,
 that all may live in unity
 and hope in ev'ry place.
 We go where Jesus led
 when others' pain we bear;
 responding to our neighbours' needs,
 Christ's cross and crown we share.

The Preparation of the Gifts

Blessed are you, God of all creation; through your goodness we have these gifts to share. Accept and use our offerings for your glory and for the service of your kingdom.

The Great Thanksgiving

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

Blessed be God for ever.

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.

It is right to glorify you and to give you thanks, our holy and living God; you dwell in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendour of your radiance.

Now we praise you with the faithful of every time and place, and give voice to every creature, as we join in the eternal hymn:

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.

We acclaim you, holy one, all your actions reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures.

When our disobedience took us far from your friendship, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

You loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only begotten one to be our Saviour. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of your servant Mary, Jesus lived as one of us, yet without sin.

To the poor, Christ proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy.

To fulfil your purpose, Christ accepted suffering and death and, through the victory over the grave, the whole creation was made new.

And that we might live no longer for ourselves, you sent the Holy Spirit, the first gift for those who believe, to complete this work in the world, and to bring to fulfilment the sanctification of all.

To you indeed be glory, almighty God, because on the night before he died, your Son, Jesus Christ, took bread; 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; when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you; do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Gracious God, we now celebrate the memorial of our redemption.

From the gifts you have given us we offer you this bread and this cup, and proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

Therefore, loving God, recalling now Christ's death and resurrection, we ask you to accept this our sacrifice of praise.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and our celebration, that we may be fed with the body and blood of your Son and be filled with your life and goodness.

Strengthen us to do your work, and to be your body in the world.
Unite us in Christ and give us your peace.
And grant that we may find our inheritance with all the saints who have found favour with you in ages past.
We praise you in union with them

We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, O God, in songs of everlasting praise.

Blessing, honour and glory be yours, here and everywhere, now and forever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we pray, saying ...

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.

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.

The Invitation to Communion

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.

Communion will be served at standing stations at the Sanctuary steps - all are welcome to receive the bread and wine at communion, (<u>however please note that intinction, ie dipping the wafer into the wine chalice, is **NOT** permitted); although you are welcome to receive the bread only if you prefer, or to come forward for a blessing only.</u>

If you need communion served to you in your seat, please indicate to the servers.

Collect for the Sunday before Advent:

Stir up, O Lord, the wills of your faithful people that, richly bearing the fruit of good works, they may by you be richly rewarded; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Most loving God, creator and redeemer, we give you thanks for this foretaste of your glory. Through Christ, and with all your saints, we offer ourselves and our lives to your service. Send us out in the power of your Spirit, to stand with you in your world. We ask this through Jesus Christ, the servant, our friend and brother. Amen.

The Blessing

The God of all grace who called you to eternal glory in Christ Jesus, restore establish and strengthen you in the faith; and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you, and remain with you for ever.

Amen.

We share any notices and news

Closing Hymn: Lo, He comes with clouds descending

CP31 / SG438 - Words: Charles Wesley & John Cennick

Tune: **HELMSLEY**

- Lo, he comes with clouds descending, see the Lamb for sinners slain; thousand thousand saints attending join to sing the glad refrain:
 Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 God appears on earth to reign.
- Every eye shall then behold him robed in awesome majesty; those who jeered at him and sold him, pierced and nailed him to the Tree, shamed and grieving, shamed and grieving, shall their true Messiah see.
- All the wounds of cross and passion still his glorious body bears; cause of endless exultation to his ransomed worshippers: with what gladness, with what gladness, with what gladness, we shall see the Saviour's scars!

Yes, Amen, let all adore you, high on your eternal throne; Saviour, take the power and glory, claim the kingdom for your own: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! You shall reign, and you alone.

The Dismissal

Haere i runga i te aroha. Haere i runga i te rangimārie. Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. **Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

Following the service, all are welcome to share morning tea/coffee served in the 'Hospitality Corner' at the southern side of the Church.

Acknowledgements:

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Church Family Worship, Michael Perry [Editor]

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The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

(encompassing St Matthew's, Hastings, St Peter's, Riverslea, & St Martin's, Mayfair)

Provoking faith in our communities

Parish Support Hub: phone: 878-9476 ~ P O Box 824, Hastings 4156

email: hastingsparish@waiapu.com

website: www.greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz

Parish Vicar: The Reverend David van Oeveren ph o6 211 3457 / 021 470 337 - email: david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com

Priest Associate: The Reverend Alister Hendery ph o6 211 3466 / 021 742 434 - email: alister.hendery@waiapu.com