



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

Eucharistic Liturgy

Celebrating

*the 30th anniversary of
St Matthew's Primary School*

and

*The Liturgy of the Laying on
of Hands for Confirmation*

9th March 2025

10.00am



Processional Hymn: Called as partners in Christ's service

Words: Jane Parker Huber- Presbyterian Hymnal #343 - tune: **BLAENWERN**

- 1** Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment,
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfil God's chosen end.
- 2** Christ's example Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow never faltering
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer poorer,
all God's people young and old,
blending human skills together,
gracious gifts from God unfold.
- 3** Thus new patterns for Christ's mission
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care
bring new power and strength for action
make us colleagues free and fair.
- 4** So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.

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.

Amine.

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

The Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

Hear the teaching of Christ:
you shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart
and with all your soul
and with all your mind
and with all your strength.
This is the first commandment.
And a second is this:
You shall love your neighbour as yourself.
Spirit of God, search our hearts.

We come seeking forgiveness
for all we have failed to be and do
as members of Christ's family.

Silence.

In God there is forgiveness.

**Loving and all-seeing God,
forgive us where we have failed to support one another
and to be what we say we are.**

**Forgive us where we have failed to serve you;
and where our thoughts and actions have been
different to yours, we ask your forgiveness.**

Presider:

Mā te Atua e muru ō koutou hara; kia mau te rongo.
God forgives us; be at peace.

Silence.

Kia koa, kia hari,
ko te Karaiti te aranga, te tāroi o te riri.

Rejoice and be glad,
for Christ is resurrection,
reconciliation for all the human race.

**We shall all be one in Christ,
one in our life together.
Praise to God who has created us,
praise to God who has accepted us,
praise to God who sends us into the world.**

We stand

Gospel Hymn: Our God is a great big God

Words: Nigel & Jo Hemming, © 2001 Vineyard Songs

**Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
Our God is a great big God
and He holds us in His hands**

**He's higher than a skyscraper
He's deeper than a submarine
He's wider than the universe
and beyond my wildest dreams
He's known me and He's loved me
since before the world began
how wonderful to be a part of
God's amazing plan**

The Proclamation

We stand as we Proclaim, Receive, and Respond to the Word of God by listening to a Gospel Reading from the Bible, and reflect and think about what this means for us.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 13: 44-53

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter thirteen,
beginning at the forty-fourth verse.

Praise and glory to God.

After the reading: This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ, the Word.

The Sermon

An Interview with some of the School's Founders

Followed by the musician playing a piece of reflective music.

The Liturgy of The Laying on of Hands for Confirmation

God's Call

The bishop says

E te whānau a te Karaiti / Dear friends in Christ,
God is love, God gives us life.
We love because God first loves us.
In baptism God declares that love;
in Christ God calls us to respond.

The Presentation for the Laying on of Hands for Confirmation

The bishop stands before the congregation. The baptised who come to profess their faith and receive the laying on of hands by the bishop are brought forward and presented to the bishop by their supporter/s with these words

Bishop Andrew, I/we present Tracey / Mark
to profess her / his faith.

The bishop then says

Tracey and Mark,
we welcome you as you come to profess your faith.
At your baptism you were made a disciple of Christ,
and we signed you with the cross.
Come now to receive the laying on of hands with prayer,
to strengthen you for the work of God's kingdom.

The Affirmation

We stand, and with the candidates for laying on of hands, we respond in these affirmations.

Praise to God who has given us life.
Blessed be God for the gift of love.

Praise to God who forgives our sin.

Blessed be God who sets us free.

Praise to God who kindles our faith.

Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

Let us, the baptised, affirm that we renounce evil
and commit our lives to Christ.

Blessed be God,

JESUS IS LORD!

The bishop then says to the candidates for laying on of hands

What is your faith?

They respond together

**I believe and trust in God the Father,
maker and sustainer of all things;**

and in God the Son,

my Saviour Jesus Christ;

and in God the Holy Spirit,

giver of life and truth.

This is my faith.

Commitment to Christian Service

We sit, and the candidates for the laying on of hands stand before the bishop, who says

Those who are baptised are called to worship and serve God.
From the beginning, believers have continued in the
apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread,
and in the prayers.

Will you commit yourself to this life?

Candidate

I will, with God's help.

Bishop

Will you forgive others, as you are forgiven?

Candidate

I will, with God's help.

Bishop

Will you seek to love your neighbour as yourself,
and strive for peace and justice?

Candidate

I will, with God's help.

Bishop Will you accept the cost of following Jesus Christ in your daily life and work?

Candidate **I will, with God's help.**

Bishop With the whole Church will you proclaim by word and action the Good News of God in Christ?

Candidate **I will, with God's help.**

The Laying on of Hands

The candidates being conveniently placed, the bishop continues

Let us pray for *Tracey and Mark*,
who have declared their commitment to Christ's service.

Silence

Our help is in the name of the eternal God
who is making the heavens and the earth.

Come Holy Spirit
bearing your gifts of grace.

The bishop prays

God of mercy and love,
new birth by water and the Spirit is your gift,
a gift that none can take away;
grant that your servants may grow
into the fulness of the stature of Christ.
Fill them with the joy of your presence.
Increase in them the fruit of your Spirit:
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of love, patience and gentleness,
the spirit of wonder and true holiness.

The bishop lays hands on each candidate in silence and then prays ...

Creator Spirit, strengthen *Tracey / Mark*
with your gifts of grace,
to love and serve as a disciple of Christ.
Guide, protect, and uphold *her / him*
that *s/he* may continue yours for ever.
Amen.

At the conclusion of the laying on of hands for all the candidates, the bishop prays

Living God, empower your disciples
to bring life to the world.

Amen!

**May we and they together be found in Christ
and Christ in us.**

The Celebration of Faith

We stand

Let us rejoice with those who have committed themselves
to Christ and celebrate the faith of our baptism.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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 Blessing of School Staff

We sit; and the school staff stand before the Bishop, who says

Today, as we celebrate this anniversary of St Matthew's Primary School, we remember the teachers and staff who, for the past thirty years, have cared for, nurtured, encouraged, and taught a generation of children and inspired them to be their best, as God intended them to be.

We also remember those who have served as Trustees, and shared their skills and knowledge to manage, develop, and expand our school as a special place of learning and growth.

To the teachers here today, we thank you for your presence with us this morning, and we ask: Will you uphold the values and traditions of the St Matthew's Primary School within the Anglican Church?

We will, with God's help.

Will you teach and inspire and children in your care?

We will, with God's help.

Will you continue to learn and grow, developing your God-given skills and talents, and share them with your students?

We will, with God's help.

So let us pray then, for God's blessing upon our teachers and trustees.

Loving God, we give you thanks for calling these teachers and trustees into our midst; we give you thanks for the skills, and for the responsibilities you have given them.

May they know your presence with them, grant them wisdom and patience as they grow in love for you and for those in their care.

We ask your blessing upon each one; through Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.

Amen. May God be with you.

Prayers of the People

We sit or kneel; St Matthew's School students lead our prayers

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

The Ministry of the Sacrament

The Peace

We stand

Bishop

Kia tau tonu te rangimārie o te Ariki ki a koutou.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

*As the next hymn is sung, the altar is prepared with the bread and wine;
our offerings of money to support ministry and mission are collected and presented.*

Offertory Hymn: **10,000 Reasons / Bless the Lord**

Lyrics & Music: Matt Redman & Jonas Myrin (based on Psalm 103: 1-5)

Chorus: **Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.**

- ¹ The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes. (Chorus)**
- ² You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing,
ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (Chorus)**
- ³ And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near, and my time has come,
still, my soul will sing Your praise unending,
ten thousand years and then forevermore.
Forevermore. (Chorus)**

Chorus: **Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name. (repeat)
Yes, I will worship Your holy name,
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.**

The Preparation of the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the Bread of Heaven.
Blessed be God forever.

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us the Cup of Salvation.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

*It is recommended that the people stand or kneel throughout the following prayer,
but may sit if preferred.*

The presiding priest says

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.

God, you made us,
and the world and everything in it.
All the good we see comes from you.

You have always loved us
but people have not always loved you.

You sent Jesus to show us how to live
and bring us back to you again.
He died for us on the cross
so that through your Spirit we can all be your people.

And so with thanks we praise you saying:

**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 are here because on the night before he died
Jesus shared a meal with his friends.

There he took some bread
and gave thanks to you, God.

He broke it into pieces, and gave it to them.

“This is my body,” he said,

“Do this, and know that I am with you.”

Later, he took a cup of wine
and gave thanks to you, God.

He shared it with them, and said,

“This is my blood, which brings new life.

Do this, and know that I am with you.”

And so, remembering Jesus, who died,
was raised to new life by you, and is alive forever,
we are glad to share that life and live in him
and proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died,

Christ is risen,

Christ will come in glory.

Send your Holy Spirit
so that this bread and wine can be for us
the body and blood of Jesus,
and through this food
give us strength to live as your people.

Help us to care for your world and for each other
in the way that Jesus showed us.

Until he comes again,
with all your people in every time and every land
we worship you in songs of everlasting praise.

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

Te Īnoi a te Ariki

The Lord's Prayer

Kua ākona nei tātou e tō tātou Ariki,
ka waiata tatou ...

**E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tāu e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āiane
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara,
Me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.
Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,
me te korōria,
Āke ake ake. Āmine.**

The bread we break
is a sharing in the body of Christ.

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

The cup of blessing
for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

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.

Bread and wine;
the gifts of God for the people of God.

**May we who share these gifts
be found in Christ and Christ in us.**

*Communion will be served at standing stations at the Sanctuary steps - all are welcome to receive the bread and wine at communion, (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 (in which case, please keep your hands behind your back).*

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

During Communion, the School Choir will sing:

***This little light of mine
Lord of the Dance
God will take care of you***

Prayer after Communion

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving
one another, as God in Christ forgave you. *Ephesians 4: 32*

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.
Amen.**

Blessing

God keep you in the fellowship of the saints;
Christ protect you by the ministry of St Matthew;
The Spirit make you holy in God's service;
and the blessing of God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be with you, and those you love,
and those you find difficult to love,
now and always.

Amen.

We share any notices and news;

then, following the Recessional Hymn, Principal Eagle will share details of proceedings for the rest of the day

Recessional Hymn: God who sets us on a journey

FFS32 – Words: Joy Dine (1937 – 2001) © Revd Mervyn Dine.

Tune: HYFRYDOL

- 1 God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward,
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.**

- 2 Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.**

continued ... →

- 3 **End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack -
once we've started on this journey
there can be no turning back;
let us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
cherish only what's essential,
choosing treasure that will last.**
- 4 **When we set up camp and settle
to avoid love's risk and pain,
you disturb complacent comfort,
pull the tent pegs up again;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.**

The Dismissal

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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