

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings –

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

5th Sunday in Lent – 6th April 2025



The Gathering of the Community

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**

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 priest introduces the liturgy.

We sit or kneel

Hear the teaching of Christ:
a new commandment I give to you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.
Spirit of God, search our hearts.

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.

Jesus, receive our love and worship.
**Show us how to give you what we have,
for nothing is too big or too small for us to offer,
or for you to use;
for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever. Amen**

The Proclamation

First reading: Isaiah 43:16-21

*Isaiah recalls the Exodus event for the exiled Jews in Babylon. Their
eventual return to their homeland will be an even greater 'exodus' event.*

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

When the Lord restored the fortunes of this people:
it seemed to us like a dream.

Then our mouth was filled with laughter:
and our tongues uttered shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations:
'The Lord has done great things for them.'

Great things indeed the Lord has done for us:
and therefore we are glad.

Restore again our fortunes O Lord:
as when streams refresh the southern dry-lands.

Those who sow in tears:
shall reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping with seed for sowing:
shall come back in gladness bringing their sheaves with them.

Second reading: Philippians 3:4b–14

Paul recalls his own traumatic life and credentials as an apostle to the Philippians.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn:

**A prophet-woman broke a jar
by Love's divine appointing.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
presiding and anointing.**

**A prophet-woman broke a jar,
the sneers of scorn defying.
With rare perfume she filled the room,
preparing Christ for dying.**

**A faithful woman left a tomb
by Love's divine commission.
She saw, she heard, she preached the word,
arising from submission.**

**A faithful woman left a tomb
with resurrection gospel.
She saw, she heard, she preached the word,
apostle to apostles.**

**Yet woman-wisdom, woman-truth
for centuries were hidden,
unsung, unwritten, and unheard,
derided and forbidden.**

**The Spirit knows, the Spirit calls
from women, men, and children
the friends we need, to serve and lead.
Rejoice and make them welcome!**

Brian Wren (abridged). Tune: DOMINUS REGIT ME

We remain standing

The Holy Gospel according to John 12:1-8

Praise and glory to God.

*Jesus is hosted by Mary, Martha, and Lazarus at which Martha anoints
Jesus' feet.*

After the reading:

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word.

The Sermon

The Affirmation of Faith

We stand

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became fully human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
and has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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

Jesus, in your mercy
receive the prayers we offer.

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:

Take my life and let it be
all you purpose, Lord, for me;
consecrate my passing days,
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move
at the impulse of your love;
take my feet, and let them run
with the news of victory won.

Take my voice, and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips, let them proclaim
all the beauty of your name.

Take my wealth all I possess,
make me rich in faithfulness;
take my mind that I may use
every power as you shall choose.

Take my motives and my will,
all your purpose to fulfil;
take my heart it is your own,
it shall be your royal throne.

Take my love my Lord, I pour
at your feet its treasure-store;
take myself, and I will be
yours for all eternity.

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.

It is right indeed, it is our joy and our salvation, holy Lord,
almighty Father, everlasting God, at all times and in all places
to give you thanks and praise through Christ your only Son.

You are the source of all life and goodness;
through your eternal Word
you have created all things from the beginning
and formed us in your own image.

When we sinned and turned away
you called us back to yourself
and gave your Son to share our human nature.
Out of love for us he accepted death and,
lifted high upon the cross,
he drew the whole world to himself;
the tree of shame became the tree of glory.
Where life was lost, there life has been restored.
In him you have made us a holy people
by sending upon us your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

Therefore with the faithful who rest in him,
with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and 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.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy Father;
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:
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.

We proclaim the mystery of our faith.

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

Therefore loving God,
recalling your great goodness to us in Christ,
his suffering and death,
his resurrection and ascension,
and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate our redemption with this bread of life
and this cup of salvation.
Accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving
which we offer through Christ our great high priest.

Send your Holy Spirit
that these gifts of bread and wine which we receive
may be to us the body and blood of Christ,
and that we, filled with the Spirit's grace and power,
may be renewed for the service of your kingdom.

United in Christ with all who stand before you
in earth and heaven,
we worship you, O God,
in songs of everlasting praise.

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

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.

The Invitation

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

Prayer after Communion,

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**

The Blessing & Dismissal

May Christ who calls you to take up your cross, give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens, and the blessing of God almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

Final Hymn:

Lord, be my vision, supreme in my heart,
bid every rival give way and depart:
you my best thought in the day or the night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Lord, be my wisdom and be my true word,
I ever with you and you with me, Lord:
you my great father and I your true child,
once far away, but by love reconciled.

**Lord, be my breastplate, my sword for the fight:
be my strong armour, for you are my might;
you are my shelter, and you my high tower
raise me to heaven, O Power of my power.**

**I need no riches, nor earth's empty praise:
you my inheritance through all my days;
all of your treasure to me you impart.
high King of heaven, the first in my heart.**

**High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, bright heaven's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

(Ancient Irish, translated Mary E Byrne (1880 - 1931) and Eleanor H Hull (1860 - 1935) ©
in this version Jubilate Hymns)

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

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