



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

(encompassing St Matthew's, Hastings, St Peter's, Riverslea, & St Martin's, Mayfair)
Christian communities in the heart of Hastings



Fourth Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday

30th March 2025

Eucharistic Liturgy:
Thanksgiving of the People of God

Presider: Grace and peace to you from God.
God fill you with truth and joy.

We stand

Opening Hymn: **For the beauty of the earth**

Gather Comprehensive #572 - GIA Publications

Tune: **DIX**

¹ For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies.
*Lord of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

² For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light:
*Lord of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

³ For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above;
for all gentle thoughts and mild:
*Lord of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

⁴ For your church, that evermore
lifts its holy hands above;
offering up on every shore
its pure sacrifice of love:
*Lord of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

⁵ For yourself, best Gift Divine!
to this world so freely given;
Word Incarnate, God's design,
peace on earth and joy in heaven:
*Lord of all, to you we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

The Presider may greet the people informally before continuing

The Gathering

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)

Sentence: 'As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you,
and you shall be comforted in Jerusalem,' says the Lord.
Isaiah 66:13

A Lenten Song of Praise

The Prayer of Manasseh

- ¹ O Lord almighty and God of our ancestors:
you made the heavens and the earth
in their glorious array.
- ² **All things quake with fear at your presence:
and tremble because of your power.**
- ³ But your merciful promise is beyond all measure:
it surpasses all that our minds can fathom.
- ⁴ **Lord you are full of compassion:
long-suffering, and abounding in mercy.**
- ⁵ And now O Lord I humble my heart:
and make my appeal, sure of your gracious goodness.
- ⁶ **For you O Lord are the God of the penitent:
and in me you will show forth your goodness.**
- ⁷ Unworthy as I am you will save me:
and so I will praise you continually,
all the days of my life.
- ⁸ **For all the host of heaven sing your praises:
and your glory is for ever and ever.**

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*

As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist together,
in a moment of silence, we call to mind God's love for us,
and our need for God's forgiveness.

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.**

Presider:

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.

Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family
to himself:
**strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive
and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

Reading:

Exodus 2: 1-10

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Psalms 34: 11-20 (ANZPB)

- ¹¹ Come my children and listen to me:
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
- ¹² **Which of you delights in life:
and desires many days of prosperity?**
- ¹³ Keep your tongue from evil:
and your lips from speaking lies.
- ¹⁴ **Turn away from evil and do good:
seek peace and steadily pursue it.**
- ¹⁵ The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous:
God's ears are open to their cry.
- ¹⁶ **The Lord opposes those who do evil:
to blot out the remembrance of them from the earth.**
- ¹⁷ The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them:
and rescues them from all their troubles.
- ¹⁸ **The Lord is near to those who are broken-hearted:
the Lord saves those who are crushed in spirit.**
- ¹⁹ The troubles of the righteous are many:
but the Lord sets them free from them all.
- ²⁰ **The Lord guards every bone in the body of the righteous:
and so not one of them is broken.**

Reading:

Colossians 3: 12-17

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: **Help us accept each other, Lord**

Words: Fred H Kaan - © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.

TiS648 - Alt. tune: **AURELIA**

- ¹ **Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.**
- ² **Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.**
- ³ **Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.**
- ⁴ **Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need,
who hunger for acceptance, for justice, and for bread,
we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on;
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us, make us one!**

Gospel Reading: **John 19: 25-27**

The Holy Gospel according to John,
chapter nineteen, beginning at the twenty-fifth verse.
Praise and glory to God.

After the reading: This is the Gospel of Christ.
Praise to Christ, the Word.

The Sermon

The Sermon may be followed by a brief period of silence and/or musical reflection

Affirmation of Faith - Nicene Creed

**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 of 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.**

The Prayers of the People

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

God of love:
grant our prayer.

Merciful God, you look with compassion
on all who turn to you.

**Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may be your grace receive;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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: **Maker of Mystery**

HIOS #47 - Words: © Marnie Barrell, 1996

Alt. tune: **DOWN AMPNEY**

- ¹ **Maker of mystery,
dreamer of what will be,
wellspring and fertile ground of all our growing:
tending the buried seed,
foreseeing every need,
you draw us into life beyond our knowing.**
- ² **Christ, strong and living vine
spreading through space and time,
deep-rooted in the love of God our Mother:**

dying, you live and share
your strength with us, to bear
ripe fruit in season for the life of others.

- 3 Wild Spirit, springing green,
coiled in the depths unseen,
promise of seed within the fruit maturing:
new life, you grow and swell,
burst from the outgrown shell,
hundredfold yield in every age ensuring.
- 4 Living and loving God,
sing in the pulse of our blood;
help us to know you in your own creation,
love you, the life of all,
serve you and hear your call
from our first forming to our full salvation.

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.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 that we should praise you,
God of love, our source and our fulfilment,
for you create all things,
and in you we live and move
and have our being.
Your wonder is manifest
in land and sea and sky.

When the times had at last grown full
and the earth had ripened in abundance,
you made us in your image for yourself.

And even though we turn from you,
again and again you call us to yourself,
and in every age, promise liberation.

As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own
to rear them in your way of compassionate love.
From your own being you sent Jesus among us,
incarnate of the Holy Spirit
and born of Mary our sister.

Jesus revealed your care for all you have made,
and showed us your way of reconciliation.
Looking forward to the joy of new life
Jesus suffered the pangs of the cross
and in rising again
became the first-born
of the renewed whanau. (*family*)

You sent your Holy Spirit
and gave birth to us your church.
Your Spirit stays to nurture and to guide us.

Now we join hands around your table,
and with all creation
we hymn your praise for your unending love,
as we say -

**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.**

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.

And so in this great sacrament
we celebrate 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.
Through your Holy Spirit,
burning as a flame, gentle as a dove,
may we who receive these gifts
live lives of justice, love, and prayer,
and be a voice for those who are not heard.

In union with your whole church
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

Draw near and receive the body and blood of our Saviour
Jesus Christ in remembrance that he died for us.
Let us feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

*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.*

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

Prayer after Communion

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the breast
you feed us in this sacrament
with the food and drink of eternal life:
**help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Lenten Wreath

In today's Gospel reading, we heard Jesus speak
from the cross to those gathered there
as they watched and waited.

Today, our journey through Lent takes us one step closer
to the cross of Good Friday, so we extinguish one more
candle in the Lenten Wreath as we, too, watch and wait.

The Blessing

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourself,
and to take up your cross and follow him;
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: **Lord, dismiss us with your blessing**

CP503 – Words: John Fawcett - tune: SICILIAN MARINERS

Alt. tune: **CWM RHONDDA** [repeat last line in each verse]

- ¹ **Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.**
 *O refresh us, O refresh us,
 travelling through this wilderness.*
- ² **Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound:
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound:
 *ever faithful, ever faithful
 to your truth may we be found.***
- ³ **Of your love some gracious token
grant us, Lord, before we go;
bless your word which has been spoken,
life and peace on all bestow.**
 *O direct us and protect us
 in the paths we do not know.*

- 4 **Saviour, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let not fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey:
 *may we ever, may we ever
 reign with you in endless day.***

The Dismissal

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

Acknowledgements:

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