

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

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



Eucharistic Liturgy for the 2nd Sunday of Easter 27th April 2025

With the Thanksgiving of a Gift of a Child and
the Ending of a Pastoral Relationship
for The Reverend Alister G. Hendery as Priest Associate
of the Parish of Greater Hastings

The Gathering of the Community

Processional Hymn

Jesus lives! Your terrors now
can, O death, no more appal us:
Jesus lives! by this we know
you, O grave, cannot enthrall us:
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! henceforth is death
but the gate of life immortal;
this shall calm our trembling breath
when we pass its gloomy portal:
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! for us he died:
then, alone to Jesus living,
pure in heart may we abide,
glory to our saviour giving:
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! this bond of love
neither life nor death shall sever,
powers below, around, above
tear us from his keeping never:
Alleluia!

Jesus lives! to him the throne
over all the world is given;
may we go where he is gone,
rest and reign with him in heaven:
Alleluia!

After C.F. Gellert, Frances E. Cox © Jubilate Hymns Ltd. Tune: ST ALBINUS

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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

This is the day which the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

The presiding priest introduces the liturgy.

The risen Christ meets us at the tomb,
and turns our tears to joy.
For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God

Christ comes through our locked doors,
and turns our fear to courage.
For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

Christ comes to daily life and work,
and turns our failure to new vision.
For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

Christ breaks the bread,
and turns our despair to hope.
For your love and goodness
we give you thanks, O God.

Rejoicing in the gift of Christ's risen presence, we say:

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

We sit or kneel.

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgive our sins:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you feed us with the living bread:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

In silence before God,
we confess our sins.

Silence

God forgives you.
Be at peace.

The peace of Christ rule in our hearts.
The word of Christ dwell in us richly.

Almighty God,
by the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
you have broken the power of death
and brought life and immortality to light;
**grant that we who have been raised with him
may triumph over all temptation
and rejoice in the hope of eternal glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Proclamation

The Readings

A reading from Acts 5:27-32

The apostles are brought before the council of religious authorities in Jerusalem and again commanded to cease teaching in the name of Jesus.

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Psalm 118:14-29

The Lord is my strength and my defence:
and has become my deliverer.

There are shouts of joy and deliverance
in the tents of the righteous:
the right hand of the Lord does mighty things.

The right hand of the Lord raises up:
the right hand of the Lord does mighty things.

I shall not die but live:
and proclaim what the Lord has done.

The Lord indeed has punished me:
but did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of the temple:
that I may enter and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord:
through which the righteous shall enter.

I will thank you because you have answered me:
and you have become my deliverer.

The stone which the builders rejected:
has become the head of the corner.

This is the Lord's doing:
and it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day which the Lord has made:
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us O Lord we pray:
Lord we pray you to give us success.

Blessèd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord:
we bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and has given us light:
**with branches in your hands,
go forward in procession up to the horns of the altar.**

You are my God and I will thank you:
you are my God and I will extol you.

We give thanks to you O Lord for you are gracious:
and your love endures for ever.

A reading from Revelation 1:4-8

*John the Seer addresses seven representative churches in Asia Minor
with a hymn of praise to Christ, the firstborn from the dead and now ruler
of all.*

After the reading:

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Gospel Hymn

**He came singing Love
and he lived singing love;
he died, singing love
He arose in silence.
For the love to go on
we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.**

He came singing faith
and he lived singing faith;
he died, singing faith.
He arose in silence.
For the faith to go on
we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

He came singing hope
and he lived singing hope;
he died, singing hope.
He arose in silence.
For the hope to go on
we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

He came singing peace
and he lived singing peace;
he died, singing peace.
He arose in silence.
For the peace to go on
we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

Words: Colin Gibson

We remain standing.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
I am the first and the last, says the Lord, and the living one;
I was dead, and behold I am alive for evermore.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

The Holy Gospel according to John 20:19-31
Praise and glory to God.

The frightened disciples find the risen Jesus in their midst.

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

The Sermon

Thanksgiving for the Gift of a Child

In this liturgy Nicole and Francois give thanks for the gift of their child Luca (bringer of light) Jacobus Viljoen. This rite has no connection with Baptism, which is the sacrament of initiation into the church, the Body of Christ, but is an opportunity for thanksgiving.

The liturgy concludes with the following as the priest prays:

Our Lord Jesus Christ be with you to defend you,
within you to keep you,
before you to lead you,
beside you to guard you,
and above you to bless you. **Amen.**

The family responds:

All embracing God
the hope of every generation,
complete our joy by your presence;
give us quiet strength and patient wisdom
as we nurture Luca in all that is good, and true, and just. **Amen.**

We say:

**May Luca learn to love all that is true,
grow in wisdom and strength
and, in due time, come through faith and baptism
to the fulness of your grace,
through Jesus Christ our friend and brother. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Affirmation of Faith

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.**

You have always been with us.
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.
You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.

We sit or kneel.

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church and for the world,
giving thanks for God's goodness.
... and, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Peace

The risen Christ came and stood among his disciples and said,
Peace be with you! Then they were glad when they saw the Lord.
Alleluia!

The peace of the risen Christ be always with you.
And also with you. Alleluia!

The Preparation of the Gifts

*The altar is prepared, and the offerings of the people are presented as we
sing the Offertory Hymn:*

Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in the dark earth many years has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

In the grave they laid him, love whom we had slain,
thinking that he'd never wake to life again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Up he sprang at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
up from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

When our hearts are saddened, grieving or in pain,
by your touch you call us back to life again;
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.

Words: John M. C. Crum/ Tune: NOEL NOUVELET

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 life.
Blessed be God for ever.

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 our spiritual drink.
Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving

We remain standing, though feel free to sit if needs be.

Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed.

Lift your hearts to heaven
where Christ in glory reigns.

Let us give thanks to 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 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.
You raised him to life triumphant over death;
you exalted him in glory.
By his victory over death,
the reign of sin is ended,
a new age has dawned,
a broken world is restored
and we are made whole once more.

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.

**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 forever. Amen.**

The Communion

The risen Christ is in our midst, and so 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.**

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Happy are those who are called to his supper.
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.

*All who are baptised are welcome to receive Holy Communion.
The sacrament 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. This makes it safer for us all.*

Prayer After Communion

As we remain seated or kneeling, we sing:

**He is Lord, he is Lord,
He is risen from the dead, and he is Lord.
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess,
that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

Gracious God,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands
the bread of life.

**Strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you and for each other;
through Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.**

The Ending of a Pastoral Relationship

The Vicar says:

Alister was called to serve, first as Transitional Priest-in-Charge of the Parish of Saint Matthew's Hastings, and then as Priest Associate of the Parish of Greater Hastings. Alister's time with us now comes to an end and he begins a new ministry as the Acting Dean of Waiapu Cathedral.

Alister says:

Over these past seven and quarter years I have shared in the life of this parish, administering Christ's holy sacraments, proclaiming and teaching God's word, sharing your joys and sorrows. I give thanks for our time together, and for the opportunity given to me to minister with you in partnership as my sisters and brothers in Christ's service.

As I lay aside this ministry as a priest on this parish, I thank you for your support and encouragement during my time with you. I am grateful for the growth and struggles, the surprises and opportunities we have shared. And I ask you to forgive me for the times I failed you.

**We receive your thankfulness and offer our forgiveness.
We are grateful for your guidance and your gifts.**

The Vicar says:

Acknowledging the bonds we have built together,
do you release Alister from this ministry with us?

**We do, with God's help.
We release you Alister from the ministry
you have exercised among us and with us.**

Will you respect the new relationship that now begins for Alister
as he moves to Waiapu Cathedral
and offer your prayerful encouragement
as he begins this new ministry?

We will, with God's help.

Do you, Alister, release the people of this Parish of Greater Hastings
from their relationship to you as one of their parish priests?

Alister says:

I do, with God's help.
My sisters and brothers in Christ,
I release you from our relationship that we may discover
the new things God is calling us to.

Alister hands over his licence as Priest Associate.

The Vicar says:

I accept back the licence that is both yours and the bishop's,
and on behalf of Andrew, Bishop of Waiapu,
and of the Anglican Church of Aotearoa New Zealand
and Polynesia, and I bear witness to the words spoken –
words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release.

Alister hands over the keys to the Church buildings.

These keys are a symbol of the duties and the stewardship
of the sacred places within this parish, as well as my entrée to them.
As I relinquish them, I acknowledge that I may only re-enter
these places in order to exercise priestly ministry
at the express invitation of the Vicar.

The Church Wardens lead the following:

Gracious God,
as Alister leaves us to begin another ministry
we give thanks for the relationships we have built,
new opportunities that have emerged, challenges we have faced,
and the knowledge that we are a gift to one another.

**We thank you for all that we have done,
learned, and shared together.**

We pray that Alister may continue to grow in grace
and in the knowledge of your love,
so that he may be a blessing to others.

**Guide and strengthen him
in the new ministry to which you have been called.**

Alister prays:

Eternal God,
by your power we are created
and by your love we are redeemed;

guide and strengthen us by your Spirit,
that we may give ourselves to your service
and live this and every day
in love to one another and to you. **Amen.**

The Dismissal of the Community

Alister blesses us:

God the Father, by whose glory Christ was raised from the dead,
strengthen you to walk with him in his risen life,
and the blessing of God almighty,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
be with you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

The Vicar gives any notices.

Final hymn

**We shall go out with hope of resurrection,
We shall go out, from strength to strength go on,
We shall go out and tell our stories boldly,
Tales of a love that will not let us go.**

**We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted,
We'll dream our dream of hurts that can be healed,
We'll weave a cloth for all the world united
Within the vision of a Christ who sets us free.**

**We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken,
We'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed,
We'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
Vibrating love alive in every heart.**

**We'll share our joy with those who are still weeping,
Chant hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
We'll leap and dance the resurrection story
Including all within the circles of our love.**

Words: June Tillman; tune: LONDONDERRY AIR

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



***You are invited to stay on for morning tea
as we share time together as a faith community.***

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