



The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings



The 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Social Services Sunday

27th July 2025

Opening Hymn: **Our Cities Cry to You O God**

SG251 - Words: Margaret Clarkson

Alt. Tune: **KINGSFOLD** [CP469]

- 1 **Our cities cry to you, O God,
from out their pain and strife;
you made us for yourself alone,
but we choose alien life.
Our goals are pleasure, gold and power;
injustice stalks our earth;
in vain we seek for rest, for joy,
for sense of human worth.**
- 2 **Yet still you walk our streets, O Christ!
We know your presence here
where humble Christians love and serve
in godly grace and fear.
O Word made flesh, be seen in us!
May all we say and do
affirm you God Incarnate still
and turn sad hearts to you!**
- 3 **Your people are your hands and feet
to serve your world today,
our lives the book our cities read
to help them find your way.
O pour your sovereign Spirit out
on heart and will and brain:
inspire your church with love and power
to ease our cities' pain!**
- 4 **O healing Saviour, Prince of Peace,
salvation's source and sum,
for you our broken cities cry:
Oh come, Lord Jesus, come!
With truth your royal diadem,
with righteousness your rod,
oh come, Lord Jesus, bring to earth
the city of our God!**

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)

Grace and peace to you from God.

God fill you with truth and joy.

Sentence for Social Services Sunday:

Let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 5: 24

Song of Praise: **The Love of God**

- 1 E te whānau, let us love one another:
for love is from God.
- 2 Those who love are born of God and know God:
**but those who do not love know nothing of God;
for God is love.**
- 3 Those who dwell in love:
are dwelling in God and God in them.
- 4 There is no room for fear in love:
love which is perfected banishes fear.
- 5 We love because God first loved us:
**if anyone who hates another says, 'I love God,'
that person is a liar.**
- 6 If we do not love those whom we have seen:
it cannot be that we love God whom we have not seen.
- 7 This commandment we have from God:
that those who love God must also love their neighbour.

1 John 4:7, 8, 16, 18–21

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.

Jesus, you were hungry and we gave you no food,
thirsty and we gave you nothing to drink.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Jesus, you were a stranger and we did not welcome you,
naked and we did not give you clothes.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Jesus, you were sick and in prison
and we did not visit you.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

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.**

The Absolution is declared by the presiding priest.

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.

Sentence of the Day:

Ask, and it will be given you; seek, and you will find;
knock, and the door will be opened for you. *Luke 1:9*

Collect of the Day:

Almighty and merciful God,
more ready to hear than we to pray,
giving more than we desire or deserve;
**pour upon us the abundance of your mercy,
forgive those things
of which our conscience is afraid,
and give us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask,
except through your Son
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

Reading: Micah 6: 6-8

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

Psalm 146: 5-10 (ANZPB)

- 5 Happy are those whose helper is the God of Jacob:
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
- 6 **who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all that is in them:
who keeps a promise for ever,**
- 7 who defends the cause of the oppressed:
and gives food to the hungry.
- 8 **The Lord sets free the prisoner,
and gives sight to the blind:
the Lord raises up those bowed down,
and loves those who are just.**
- 9 The Lord cares for the stranger in the land,
and sustains the widows and orphans:
but turns the way of the wicked to ruin.
- 10 **The Lord shall reign for ever:
your God O Jerusalem shall reign for all generations.
Whakamoemititia a Ihowā. / O praise the Lord.**

Reading: James 2: 14-17

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

Gradual Hymn: Faith will not grow from words alone

TiS#691 - Words: Elizabeth J Smith

Tune: DUNEDIN [AA155]

- 1 **Faith will not grow from words alone,
from proofs provided, scripture known;
our faith must feel its way about,
and live with question-marks and doubt.**

- 2 **The pattern Jesus showed, we share:
life comes through death, hope through despair.
God is made known in brokenness,
and faith feeds on God's emptiness.**
- 3 **The church still tells how Jesus came
through death to glorious life again -
the strangest story! Yet, maybe,
our faith will thrive on mystery.**
- 4 **Faith takes the little that we know,
and calls for hope, and tells us: Go!
Love and take courage, come what may;
Christ will be with us on the way.**

Gospel Reading: **Luke 11: 1-13**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke
chapter eleven, beginning at the first verse
Praise and glory to God.

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

The Sermon *with staff and members of the Open Home Foundation*

A brief period of silence and/or a musical reflection may follow

Hymn:

Bless the arms that comfort

Words: Mary Louise Bringle - GIA Publications

Tune: CRANHAM (Gustav Holst) [CP55 - aka In the Bleak Midwinter]

- 1 **Bless the arms that comfort
strong to shoulder care,
gentle in their healing,
reaching through despair.
Bless the hands that labour:
Martha's daily deeds;
Mary's precious ointment,
balm for different needs.**

- 2 Bless the ears that listen,
sharing joys and fears –
laughing in our triumphs,
weeping with our tears.
Bless the eyes whose wisdom
sees through pride's façade,
cherishing our weakness
with the heart of God.
- 3 Bless the feet that follow,
like Naomi's Ruth –
constant friend through sorrow,
speaking holy truth:
though our journeys lead us
far in time and space,
God anoints companions,
ministers of grace.

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

For the hungry and the overfed
May we have enough.

For the mourners and the mockers
May we laugh together.

For the victims and the oppressors
May we share power wisely.

For the peacemakers and the warmongers
May clear truth and stern love lead us to harmony.

For the silenced and the propagandists
May we speak our own words in truth.

For the unemployed and the overworked
May our impress on the earth be kindly and creative.

For the troubled and the sleek
May we live together as wounded healers.

For the homeless and the cosseted
May our homes be simple, warm and welcoming.

For the vibrant and the dying
May we all die to live.

In a moment of silence,
we pray for our own needs.

Silence

Lord, you have called us to serve you.
Grant that we may walk in your presence:
your love in our hearts,
your truth in our minds,
your strength in our wills;
until, at the end of our journey,
we know the joy of our homecoming
and the welcome of your embrace,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

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: ***We meet as friends at table***

Words: Brian Wren © 1996 Hope Publishing Co. / Worship and Rejoice #704

Alt. tune: **MORNING LIGHT** [CP578]

- 1 **We meet as friends at table,
to listen, and be heard,
united by the Spirit,
attentive to the Word.
Through prayer and conversation
we tune our varied views
to Christ, whose love has made us
the bearers of good news.**
- 2 **With food and drink for sharing
the table soon is spread.
The freedom-meal of Jesus
is crowned with wine and bread,
and all, without exception,
may eat, and speak, and stay,
for this is Christ's own table
where none are turned away.**
- 3 **We share our lives and longings,
and when the meal is done
we pray as friends at table,
and promise to be one.
To Christ, and to each other,
we cheerfully belong:
apart, our hope is fruitless;
together, we are strong.**
- 4 **Fulfilled, and glad to follow
wherever Christ may lead,
we journey from the table
to love a world in need
with patience, truth and kindness,
that justice may increase
and all may sit at table
in freedom, joy, and peace.**

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.

Honour and worship are indeed your due,
our Lord and our God, through Jesus Christ,
for you created all things;
by your will they were created,
and for your glory they have their being.

In your loving purpose you chose us
before the foundation of the world to be your people;
you gave your promises to Abraham and Sarah
and bestowed your favour on the Virgin Mary.

Above all we give you thanks and praise
for your grace in sending Jesus Christ,
not for any merit of our own
but when we had turned away from you.

We were bound in sin,
but in your compassion you redeemed us,
reconciling us to yourself
with the precious blood of Christ.

In your Son you suffered with us and for us,
offering us the healing riches of salvation
and calling us to freedom and holiness.

Therefore with people of every nation,
tribe and language,
with the whole Church on earth and in heaven,
joyfully we give you thanks and 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.**

All glory and honour to you, God of grace,
for you gave your only Son Jesus Christ
once for all on the cross
to be the one perfect sacrifice for the sin of the world,
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

The night before he died,
he took bread,
and 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,
and 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.

Therefore heavenly Father,
in this sacrament of the suffering and death of your Son,
we now celebrate the wonder of your grace
and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

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

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness,
we were far off until you brought us near
and our hands are empty until you fill them.
As we eat this bread and drink this wine,
through the power of your Holy Spirit
feed us with your heavenly food,
renew us in your service, unite us in Christ,
and bring us to your everlasting kingdom.
O the depths and riches of your wisdom, O God;
how unsearchable are your judgments
and untraceable your ways.

**From you, and through you, and for you are all things.
To you be the glory for ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught 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.**

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.

Post-Communion Sentence

Jesus said, “I have set you an example,
that you also should do as I have done to you.”

John 13: 15

Prayer after Communion

Almighty God,
we thank you for your mercy and your grace:
you are our light in darkness,
our strength in weakness,
and our comfort in sorrow.
You heal our bodies and our minds;
you ease our pain, you lift our anxieties
and give us hope.

**So fill us with your Spirit's power
that we may take your healing love
to a world in need,
and bring glory to your name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The Blessing

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace
in believing;
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: *Go to the world*

Voices United #420 - Words: Sylvia Dunstan © 1991 GIA Publications

*Tune: **SINE NOMINE** - [CP232] Ralph Vaughan Williams*

- 1 Go to the world! Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**
- 2 Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**
- 3 Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

→

- 4 **Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you 'til the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry “Amen”.
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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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and

*[Celebrating Eucharist](https://liturgy.co.nz/celebrating-eucharist) © Bosco Peters
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[Church Family Worship](#), Michael Perry [Editor]

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