



The Patronal Festival of St Matthew

Sunday 25th September 2025

10.00 am

Eucharistic Liturgy

Thanksgiving of the People of God

Sentence for a Saints Day

The righteous will be remembered for ever: the memory of the righteous is a blessing.

Ps 112: 6; Proverbs 10:7

We stand

Opening Hymn: The Place of Trade and Taxes

(St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist – 21st September) Words: Bill Bennett - Alt. tune: **ELLACOMBE**

- 1 The place of trade and taxes was where the great call came, for Matthew in his office responded to Christ's claim. In every home and workplace our Lord is present still, for God is Lord of money, at every booth and till.
- 2 So Matthew in his business collected what was due; the son of Alphaeus laboured to make his living too. His colleagues and companions were seen as men of sin yet in their midst came Jesus, their hearts and minds to win.
- In every bank and business, in factory, farm, and home, where capital's invested, and money's spent and loaned; the Lord of life is present, among the rich and poor, and senses our temptation to gather more and more.
- 4 So, sing of Matthew's witness, who followed in The Way, whose gospel we inherit, our guide for life today.
 We praise our God, Creator, the faith we hold and share, and daily live and labour in hope and love and prayer.

The Gathering of the Community

The presiding priest may greet the people informally, then continues

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

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

We pray together:

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, so that we may truly love you and worthily praise your holy name; through our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Gloria

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

A New Commandment

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.

3

E te Ariki, kia aroha mai. Lord, have mercy

E te Ariki, kia aroha mai.

E te Karaiti, kia aroha mai. Christ, have mercy

E te Karaiti, kia aroha mai.

E te Ariki, kia aroha mai. Lord, have mercy

E te Ariki, kia aroha mai.

Jesus said:

There is joy among the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

Come to me all who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.

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

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

Go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them, and teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. Matthew 28: 19-20

A Collect of the Day

Gracious and eternal God, through your Son Jesus Christ you called Matthew from his place of business to be an apostle and evangelist; free us from all greed and selfish love of money that we may follow in the steps of Jesus Christ our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

Reading: **Proverbs 3: 1-6**

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

Psalm 19: 1-6 (ANZPB)

- The heavens proclaim the glory of God: and the vault of the sky reveals God's handiwork.
- One day speaks to another: and night shares its knowledge with night,
- and this without speech or language: their voices are not heard.
- 4 But their sound goes out into all lands: their words to the ends of the earth.
- In them God has pitched a tent for the sun: which comes out like a bridegroom, like an athlete eager to run a race.
- 6 Its rising is at one end of the sky, it runs its course to the other: and there is nothing that is hidden from its heat.

Reading: **Ephesians 4: 1-14**

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

Gospel Hymn: Christ for the world we sing!

CP394 - Words: Samuel Wolcott

Alt. tune: Moscow

- 1 Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring with fervent prayer: the wayward and the lost, by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost from dark despair.
- 2 Christ for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring with one accord: with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare, with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.

Thrist for the world we sing; the world to Christ we bring with joyful song: the newborn souls, whose days, reclaimed from error's ways, inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 9: 9-13

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, chapter nine, beginning at the ninth verse.

Praise and glory to God.

After the Gospel, the reader says

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ, the Word.**

The Sermon

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

The Prayers of the People

(adapted from 'Let Us Pray' - Janet Nelson)

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

We sit or kneel

God of ... - in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, we pray for ourselves and our ministries.

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.

We stand

The Ministry of the Sacrament

The Peace

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

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The Presider may invite people to exchange a sign of peace by shaking hands with those around you and saying "Peace be 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: O Christ, at your first Eucharist Your Prayed

SG476 - Words: William Turton (& in this version Jubilate Hymns) - Tune: SONG 1

1 O Christ, at your first Eucharist you prayed that all your church might be forever one; at every Eucharist this prayer is made with longing heart and soul 'Your will be done': O may we all one bread, one body be through this blessed sacrament of unity.

- 2 For all your church, O Lord, we intercede that you will make our sad divisions cease: O draw us nearer each to each, we plead, by drawing all to you, the prince of peace. Thus may we all one bread, one body be through this blessed sacrament of unity.
- We pray for those who wander from your fold:
 O bring them back, great Shepherd of the sheep –
 back to the faith which saints believed of old,
 the faith for all your holy church to keep.
 Soon may we all one bread, one body be
 through this blessed sacrament of unity.
- So, Lord, at length when sacraments shall cease, may we be one with all your church above; one with your saints in one unbroken peace, one with your saints in one unbounded love: far happier then, in peace and love to be one with the Trinity in Unity!

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

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.

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.

We give thanks for the example and encouragement of your saints, especially Matthew, for their witness to the truth of your gospel, and for the hope of glory which we share with them.

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 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 Christ teaches 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.

The priest breaks the bread

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

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.

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 for St Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist

For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ. ² Corinthians 4: 6

Prayer After Communion

Father, 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.

Almighty God, giver of all good things, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the precious body and blood of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. We thank you for your love and care in assuring us of your gift of eternal life and uniting us with the blessed company of all faithful people.

Therefore, everliving God, keep us steadfast in your holy fellowship. And now we offer ourselves, all that we have and are, to serve you faithfully in the world, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing

God give you grace to follow the saints in faith and hope and love; 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 or news

Closing Hymn: Lord, You Give The Great Commission

Words: Jeffery Rowthorn © 1978 Hope Publishing Company Alt. tune: **HYFRYDOL**

1 Lord, you give the great commission:
"Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission and the gospel go unheard, help us witness to your purpose with renewed integrity:
with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

- 2 Lord, you call us to your service: "In my name baptize and teach."

 That the world may trust your promise, life abundant meant for each, give us all new fervour, draw us closer in community: with the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.
- 3 Lord, you make the common holy:
 "This my body, this my blood."
 Let us all, for earth's true glory,
 daily lift life heavenward,
 asking that the world around us
 share your children's liberty:
 with the Spirit's gifts empower us
 for the work of ministry.
- 4 Lord, you show us love's true measure:
 "Father, what they do, forgive."
 Yet we hoard as private treasure
 all that you so freely give.
 May your care and mercy lead us
 to a just society:
 with the Spirit's gifts empower us
 for the work of ministry.
- 5 Lord, you bless with words assuring:
 "I am with you to the end."
 Faith and hope and love restoring,
 may we serve as you intend,
 and, amid the cares that claim us,
 hold in mind eternity:
 with the Spirit's gifts empower us
 for the work of ministry.

The Dismissal of the Community

Haere i runga i te aroha. Haere i runga i te rangimārie. Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace. **Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

After the service, all are welcome to share light refreshments in the 'Hospitality Corner' at the southern side of the Church.

Acknowledgements: This Order of Service is taken from
A New Zealand Prayer Book / He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa
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