The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings

Fourth Sunday of Lent
Mothering Sunday

15th March 2026

Eucharistic Liturgy:
Thanksgiving of the People of God with Baptism Liturgy

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

We stand

Opening Hymn: ***Awake, awake: fling off the night!***
CP334 – Words: J R Peacey - Based on Ephesians 5: 6-20
Alt. tune: **MORNING HYMN** *[aka Awake my soul and with the sun – CP1]*

1 **Awake, awake: fling off the night!**
For God has sent a glorious light;
and we who live in Christ’s new day
must works of darkness put away.

2 **Awake and rise, with love renewed,**
and with the Spirit’s power endued.
The light of life in us must glow,
and fruits of truth and goodness show.

3 **Let in the light; all sin expose**
to Christ, whose life no darkness knows.
Before his cross for guidance kneel;
his light will judge and, judging, heal.

4 **Awake, and rise up from the dead,**
and Christ his light on you will shed.
It’s power will wrong desires destroy,
and your whole nature fill with joy.

5 **Then sing for joy, and use each day;**
give thanks for everything always.
Lift up your hearts; with one accord
praise God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

A Lenten Song of Praise

The Beatitudes *(Matthew 5: 3–10)*

1 Blessèd are the poor in spirit:
for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

2 Blessèd are the sorrowful:
for they shall find consolation.

3 Blessèd are those of a gentle spirit:
for they shall have the earth for their possession.

4 Blessèd are those who hunger and thirst
to see right prevail:
for they shall be satisfied.

5 Blessèd are those who show mercy:
for mercy shall be shown to them.

6 Blessèd are those whose hearts are pure:
for they shall see God.

7 Blessèd are the peacemakers:
for they shall be called God's children.

8 Blessèd are those who have suffered persecution
for the cause of right:
for the kingdom of heaven is theirs.

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.

Sentence: 'I am the light of the world,' says the Lord;
'those who follow me will have the light of life.' *John 8:12*

Collect: God of unchangeable power,
when you fashioned the world
the morning stars sang together
and the host of heaven shouted for joy;
open our eyes to the wonders of creation
and teach us to see all things for good,
to the honour of your glorious name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Reading: **1 Samuel 16: 1-13** *- David is chosen and anointed*

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

Psalm 23 *(ANZPB)*

1 The Lord is my shepherd:
therefore can I lack nothing.

2 You Lord make me lie down in green pastures:
and lead me beside the waters of peace.

3 You revive my spirit:
and guide me in right pathways
for your names sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil:
for you are with me,
your rod and your staff are my comfort.

5 You spread a table for me in the sight of my enemies:
you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is overflowing.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Reading: **Ephesians 5: 8-14** *- Live as children of light*

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

Gradual Hymn: ***Come away from rush and hurry***
Words: Marva Dawn (1999) – based on Psalm 23 - tune: **NETTLETON**

1 Come away from rush and hurry
to the stillness of God's peace;
from our vain ambition's worry,
come to Christ and find release. →

Come away from noise and clamour,
life's demands and frenzied pace;
come to join the people gathered
here to seek and find God's face.

2 **In the pastures of God's goodness**
we lie down to rest our soul.
From the waters of his mercy
we drink deeply, are made whole.
At the table of his presence
all his saints are richly fed.
With the oil of his anointing
into service we are led.

3 **Come, then, children, with your burdens –**
life's confusions, fears, and pain.
Leave them at the cross of Jesus;
take instead his kingdom's reign.
Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them –
he alone will satisfy.
All our longings find attainment
when to self we gladly die.

Gospel Reading: **John 9: 1-41** - *The man born blind*

The Holy Gospel according to John,
chapter nine, 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

The Sermon is followed by a moment of silence and/or musical reflection; then we stand to sing as the baptismal family, godparents, and supporters gather around the Font.

Baptism Hymn: ***New Child of God***

AA96 - Words: © Shirley Murray - Alt. tune: **HERONGATE** *CP109 / SG481*

1 New child of God, come to be blessed,
here in the Church, your life is claimed:
signed with the cross of Jesus Christ,
by word and water, you are named.

2 In love and wonder you were made,
a little lamb, like God's own Son,
to you belongs this house of faith,
in you will shine a hope begun.

3 In air that's free, a land that's just,
where children thrive and people care,
where Christ is honoured, not denied,
may aroha be yours to share.

4 And as you grow, may you be led
to know the Love who gave you light,
to stretch and feel your spirit's wings,
to trust, and like a bird take flight.

The congregation sit

The Liturgy of Baptism

God's Call

The priest says: E te whānau a te Karaiti / Dear friends in Christ,
God is love, God gives us life.
We love because God first loves us.
In baptism God declares that love;
in Christ God calls us to respond.

The Presentation for Baptism

The priest says to the parents and godparents:

Who do you bring to be baptised?

The candidate for baptism is presented by parents and godparents, who together say:

I present *Marley Winiata* to be baptised
and made a member of the Body of Christ, the Church.

The priest says:

From the beginning the Church has received believers by baptism. Believers' children have also been baptised so that with help and encouragement they should grow up in Christ and by the grace of God serve Christ all the days of their life.

On the day when the apostles first preached the Gospel of Christ's resurrection, Peter urged his hearers

'Repent and be baptised, every one of you,
in the name of Jesus the Christ
for the forgiveness of your sins,
and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For the promise is to you and to your children,
and to all who are far away, everyone whom
the Lord our God may call.'

To the parents and godparents:

Esme and Rebekah, Hamish and Aimee-Jane
How do you respond to this promise?

The parents and godparents reply together:

We hear God's call and ask for baptism.

The priest says to the parents and godparents:

Do you renounce all evil influences and powers
that rebel against God?

The parents and godparents reply:

I renounce all evil.

The priest says to the parents and godparents:

Do you trust in Christ's victory which brings forgiveness,
freedom, and life?

The parents and godparents reply:

In faith I turn to Christ
my way, my truth, my life, as I care for this child.

All: **May God keep you in the way you have chosen.**

The priest stands by the water for baptism, and says:

Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All: **whose promise endures for ever.**

The priest prays:

We thank you God for your love in all creation, especially for your gift of water to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.

We thank you for your covenant with your people Israel;
through the Red Sea waters you led them to freedom
in the promised land.
In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptised by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

Through the deep waters of death Jesus fulfilled his baptism.
He died to set us free and was raised to be exalted Lord of all.
It is Christ who baptises with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
Amen. Come Holy Spirit.

We thank you that through the waters of baptism you cleanse us,
renew us by your Spirit and raise us to new life.
In the new covenant we are made members of your Church
and share in your eternal kingdom.

Through your Holy Spirit, fulfil once more your promises in this
water of rebirth, set apart in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.
Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom,
thanksgiving and honour, power and might,
be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!

Marley Winiata
I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen. God receives you by baptism into the Church.
Child of God, blessed in the Spirit,
welcome to the family of Christ.

The priest makes the sign of the cross (with Holy Oil) on the baptised, and says:

We sign you with the cross, the sign of Christ.

A lighted candled may be presented by a member of the congregation, who says:

Walk in the faith of Christ crucified and risen.
Shine with the light of Christ.

The Affirmation

All who are able, stand to respond in these affirmations.

Praise to God who has given us life.
Blessed be God for the gift of love.

Praise to God who forgives our sin.
Blessed be God who sets us free.

Praise to God who kindles our faith.
Blessed be God, our strength, our hope.

The priest says to all those present who are baptised Christians:

Let us, the baptised, affirm that we renounce evil
and commit our lives to Christ.

All: **Blessed be God, JESUS IS LORD!**

The congregation sit

The priest then says to the parents and godparents of the newly baptised:

What is your faith?

The parents and godparents respond together, saying:

I believe and trust in God the Father,
maker and sustainer of all things;
and in God the Son, my Saviour Jesus Christ;
and in God the Holy Spirit, giver of life and truth.
This is my faith.

The priest speaks to the parents and godparents:

How then will you care for this child?

The parents and godparents reply together:

I will love this child and share my faith with him.

The priest says to the congregation:

As the community of faith, we rejoice at this baptism
and will share with *Marley* what we ourselves have received:
a delight in prayer, a love for the word of God,
a desire to follow the way of Christ, and food for the journey.

The priest then says to the child:

Marley, you are now a pilgrim with us.
As a member of Christ's body, the Church,
you will be challenged to affirm your faith in God
and receive the laying on of hands in confirmation.
May you grow in the Holy Spirit,
fulfil your ministry
and follow Christ your whole life long.

The priest then blesses the family:

God bless you with wisdom and love,
may this child find in you, your homes and families,
Christ's love and understanding.
Amen.

The priest, with the people, prays:

God of love,
we thank you for our calling
to be disciples of Christ.
Help us to nurture *Marley* in the faith we share.
May he grow to love, worship and serve you,
and bring life to the world. Amen.

The parents and godparents return to their seats with their children.

The Celebration of Faith

All standing, the priest says to the congregation:

Let us rejoice with those who have committed themselves
to Christ, and celebrate the faith of our baptism.

Priest: Do you believe in God the Father?

All: **I believe in God the Father almighty,**
creator of heaven and earth.

Priest: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

All: **I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

Priest: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

All: **I believe in the Holy Spirit,**
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. 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: ***Look who gathers at Christ's table!***

Glory to God #506 [The Presbyterian Hymnal]
Words: Thomas Troeger © 2002 Oxford University Press -
Alt.tune: **CONVERSE**

1 **Look who gathers at Christ's table!**
Hear the stories that they bring.
Some are weeping; some are laughing;
some have songs they want to sing.
Others ask why they're invited,
burdened by the wrong they've done.
Christ insists they all are welcome.
there is room for ev'ryone.

2 **Clouds of light surround the table;**
Ancient followers appear,
saints confessing how they wrestled
with their guilt, their doubt and fear.
Peter tells of his denying
Christ was ever in his sight;
Paul relates his fruitless effort
to obliterate the light.

3 **Their sad stories are repeated**
in a thousand diff'rent ways,
but they share one thing in common:
they all end in thanks and praise
for the host who has invited
north and south and east and west
to converge around this table,
where all life is fed and blest.

4 **Bring your joy and bring your sadness,**
and prepare to be surprised
by the host whose hands are wounded,
who will open wide your eyes
when he blesses bread and breaks it–
truth and manna from above!–
and then passes wine that wakens
in your heart the taste of love.

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

Our Lenten wreath reminds us
of Jesus' temptations in the wilderness,
and His journey towards the cross of Good Friday.

Today, as we take another step in our journey
through this Lenten season,
we now extinguish the fourth candle
in the Lenten wreath, and we pray …

Loving God, keep us steadfast in your word,
and when we fall, raise us again and restore us
through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: ***Love / Peace / Truth will be our Lenten calling***

TiS684 © Elizabeth J. Smith, 1999 - Tune: **PICARDY** *(for Lent 4, verse 2 only)*

2 **Peace will be our Lenten living**
as we turn for home again,
longing for the words of pardon,
stripping off old grief and pain,
till we stand, restored and joyful,
with the Church on Easter day.

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:
This Order of Service has been compiled from copyright resources offered on-line by the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia, ANZPB (anglicanprayerbook.nz) and used in accordance with regulations
and
Celebrating Eucharist © Bosco Peters https://liturgy.co.nz/celebrating-eucharist
Artwork © John Stuart - www.stushieart.com - used with permission
Hymns reproduced with permission under Licence #CCLI 565525

The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings
(encompassing St Matthew's, Hastings, St Peter's, Riverslea, & St Martin's, Mayfair)
A Sanctuary Parish pursuing excellence in ministry

Parish Support Hub: phone: 878-9476 ~ P O Box 824, Hastings 4156
email: hastingsparish@waiapu.com
website: www.greaterhastingsanglicanchurch.co.nz
Bank account: ANZ 01-0646-0246683-01 Greater Hastings Parish

Parish Vicar: The Reverend David van Oeveren
ph 06 211 3457 / 021 470 337 - email: david.vanoeveren@waiapu.com