



**The Anglican Parish
of Greater Hastings**



Fourth Sunday of Easter
Good Shepherd Sunday

26th April 2026

at St Matthew's Church

Presider: Alleluia! Christ is Risen!
He is Risen indeed, Alleluia!
This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

We stand

Opening Hymn: ***That Easter Day with joy was bright***

Words / Translator: J M Neale - Worship [4th Ed.] #514

*Tune: **PUER NOBIS NASCITUR** [CP49]*

- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord!**
- 2 His risen flesh with radiance glowed;
His wounded hands and feet he showed.
Those scars their solemn witness gave
that Christ was risen from the grave.**
- 3 O Jesus, King of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess
that we may give you all our days
the tribute of our grateful praise.**
- 4 O Lord of all, with us abide
in this our joyful Easter-tide;
from ev'ry weapon death can wield
your own redeemed forever shield.**
- 5 All praise to you, O risen Lord,
now both by heav'n and earth adored;
to God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!**

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)

A Litany of Praise and Thanksgiving

Our Lord Jesus Christ, risen from death,
we praise you for changed lives
and new hopes at Easter:

You came to Mary in the garden,
and turned her tears into joy.
For your love and goodness:
we give you thanks, O God.

You came to the disciples in the upper room,
and turned their fear into courage.
For your love and goodness:
we give you thanks, O God.

You came to the disciples by the lake-side,
and turned their failure into faith.
For your love and goodness:
we give you thanks, O God.

You came to the disciples on the Emmaus road,
and turned their despair into hope.
For your love and goodness:
we give you thanks, O God.

You come to us in our unworthiness and shame,
and turn our weakness into triumph.
For your love and goodness:
we give you thanks, O God.

Lord Jesus, wherever there are tears, or fear,
or failure, or despair, or weakness:
**come, reveal to us your love, your peace,
your mercy, and your risen power;
for the glory of your name.
Alleluia! Amen.**

The Easter Anthems

- 1 Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed:
therefore let us keep the feast,
- 2 **not with the old leaven,
the leaven of corruption and wickedness:
but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth.**
- 3 Christ being raised from the dead will never die again:
death no longer has dominion over him.
- 4 **The death he died, he died to sin once for all:
but the life he lives, he lives to God.**
- 5 So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin:
and alive to God in Jesus Christ.
- 6 **Christ has been raised from the dead:
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.**
- 7 For as by a man came death:
by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
- 8 **For as in Adam all die:
so also in Christ shall all be made alive.**

1 Corinthians 5:7, 8; Romans 6:9–11; 1 Corinthians 15:20–22

We sit or kneel

Christ our Passover lamb has been sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of sincerity and truth. Alleluia. *1 Corinthians 5: 7-8*

As we prepare to celebrate this Eucharist together,
in a moment of silence, we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Like Mary at the empty tomb,
we fail to grasp the wonder of your presence.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Like the disciples behind locked doors,
we are afraid to be seen as your followers.
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

Like Thomas in the upper room,
we are slow to believe.
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Silence

Loving God,
your presence comforts us as we journey
through desert times and dark days;
**forgive us, cleanse us, heal us,
and set us free,
so that we may come to share
in your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.
Amen**

Presider: God forgives you;
forgive others;
forgive yourself.

Silence

Through Christ, God has put away your sin:
approach your God in peace.
Amen.

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

Sentence of the Day

‘I am the good shepherd,’ says the Lord.
‘The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.’
John 10:11

Collect of the Day

Good shepherd of the sheep,
by whom the lost are sought
and guided into the fold;
**feed us and we shall be satisfied,
heal us and we shall be whole,
and lead us that we may be with you,
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
where you reign one God for ever.
Amen.**

Reading: **Acts 2: 42-47** - *The believers' common life*

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: 1 Peter 2: 19-25 - *Follow the shepherd, even in suffering*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn: ***My Shepherd, you supply my need***

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, 2006 #782 / Voices Together, 2020 #640

*Words: Isaac Watt - Alt. tune: **ELLACOMBE***

- 1 **My Shepherd, you supply my need,
most holy is your name;
in pastures fresh you make me feed,
beside the living stream.
You bring my wand'ring spirit back
when I forsake your ways;
you lead me, for your mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.**

- 2 **When through the shades of death I walk,
your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Your hand in sight of all my foes,
does still my table spread;
my cup with Blessings overflows,
your oil anoints my head.**

- 3 **Your sure provisions gracious God
attend me all my days;
oh, may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise.
Here would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger, nor a guest,
but like a child at home.**

Gospel Reading: **John 10: 1-10** - *Christ the shepherd*

The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter ten,
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

*A brief period of silence and/or musical reflection may follow;
then we stand to affirm our faith.*

An Affirmation of Faith

Let us celebrate and affirm our faith.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**We believe and trust in God the Father,
Creator of the universe.**

Do you believe and trust in God's Son, Jesus Christ?

**We believe and trust in Jesus Christ,
God's only Son, our Lord and our Saviour.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit?

**We believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,
the giver of life.**

This is the faith of the Church;

this is our faith.

**We believe and trust in one God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People

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

We sit or kneel

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

Good Shepherd, you are the shepherd of many flocks:
hear our prayers for all the peoples of the world.

V: Loving God, in your mercy:

R: **Hear our prayer.**

God of peace, let us your people know,
that at the heart of turbulence
there is an inner calm that comes from faith in you.
**Keep us from being content with things as they are,
that from this central peace there may come
a creative compassion, a thirst for justice,
and a willingness to give of ourselves
in the spirit of Christ. 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: I danced in the morning

CP468 – Words: Sydney Carter © Stainer & Bell

Tune: **LORD OF THE DANCE** (Shaker melody)

- 1 I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
and I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth,
at Bethlehem I had my birth.**

Refrain: **“Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance,” said he.
“I’ll lead you all wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the dance,” said he.**

continued ... →

2 I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
but they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and for John;
they came with me and the dance went on.

Refrain: "Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance," said he.
"I'll lead you all wherever you may be,
I will lead you all in the dance," said he.

3 I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame,
the holy people, they said it was a shame;
they whipped and they stripped and they hung me high,
and they left me there on a cross to die. *[Refrain]*

4 I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on. *[Refrain]*

5 They cut me down and I leapt up high,
I am the life that'll never, never die,
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
"I am the Lord of the Dance," said he. *[Refrain]*

The Preparation of the Gifts

Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation.
In your loving care
you spread before us the table of life
and give us the cup of salvation to drink.
Keep us always in the fold of our Saviour
and our Shepherd,
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Blessed be God for ever.
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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

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 indeed right, our duty and our joy,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
almighty and eternal Father,
and in these days of Easter
to celebrate with joyful hearts
the memory of your wonderful works.

For by the mystery of his passion
Jesus Christ, your risen Son,
has conquered the powers of death and hell
and restored in men and women
the image of your glory.
He has placed them once more in paradise
and opened to them the gate of life eternal.

And so, in the joy of this Passover,
earth and heaven resound with gladness,
while angels and archangels
and the powers of all creation
sing for ever the hymn of your glory.

**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.**

Blessed are you, most holy, in your Son,
who washed his disciples' feet.
'I am among you,' he said, 'as one who serves.'

On that night before he died
he took bread and gave 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 gave you thanks.
He gave it to them and said:
Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant,
shed for you, shed for all,
to forgive sin;
do this to remember me.

Therefore with this bread and wine
we recall your goodness to us.

**God of the past and present,
we your people remember your Son.
We thank you for his cross and rising again,
we take courage from his ascension;
we look for his coming in glory
and in him we give ourselves to you.**

Send your Holy Spirit,
that we who receive Christ's body
may indeed be the body of Christ,
and we who share his cup
draw strength from the one true vine.

**Called to follow Christ,
help us to reconcile and unite.
Called to suffer,
give us hope in our calling.**

For you, the heavenly one,
make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end,
the last and the first.

**Praise, glory and love be yours,
this and every day,
from us and all people,
here and everywhere.
Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Christ's body was broken for us on the cross.
Christ is the bread of life.

His blood was shed for our forgiveness.
Christ is risen from the dead.

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.

Prayer after Communion

Christ, you are risen from the dead.

We are risen with you.

**May our life never deny this eternal life,
this peace and hope and joy.**

**Praise and glory to the God of life
who is stronger than all kinds of death.**

Alleluia. Amen.

The Blessing

The God of peace who brought again from the dead
our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep,
make you perfect in every good work to do his will;
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: **Good Shepherd, you know us**

Words: © Christopher Idle / Jubilate Hymns - Tune: **ST DENIO**

- 1 Good Shepherd, you know us, you call us by name,
you lead us; we gladly acknowledge your claim.
Your voice has compelled us; we come at your call,
and none you have chosen will finally fall.**
- 2 Good Shepherd, you warn us of robbers and thieves;
the hireling, the wolf, who destroys and deceives;
all praise for your promise on which we can stand,
that no-one can snatch us from out of your hand.**
- 3 Good Shepherd, you lay down your life for the sheep;
your love is not fickle, your gift is not cheap.
You spend your life freely, you take it again;
you died, so we live - we are healed by your pain.**

- 4 **At one with the Father, you made yourself known:
'I am the Good Shepherd', at one with your own.
You loved us before we had heeded or heard;
by grace we respond to your life-giving word.**

The Dismissal Gospel

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John, chapter eleven.

Praise and glory to God.

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life.
Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.'

John 11: 25,26

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ, the Word.

With the power that raised Jesus from the dead
at work within you, go in peace

to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia!

Amen. We go in the name of Christ. Alleluia!

*Following the service, all are welcome to share a time of fellowship and refreshment
over morning tea which is served in the 'Hospitality' corner
at the southern side of the church.*



Acknowledgements:

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A New Zealand Prayer Book / He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa

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