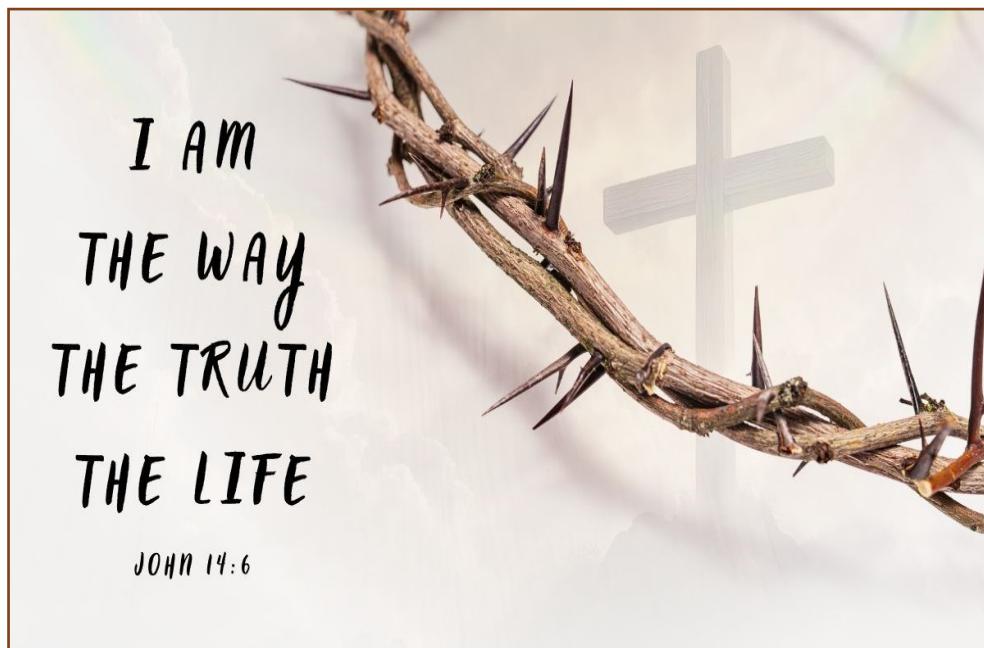




# The Anglican Parish of Greater Hastings



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

**3<sup>rd</sup> May 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: ***Christ is made the sure foundation***

*SG572 - Words: from the Latin, John Neale - and in this version © Jubilate Hymns*

*Tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY*

- 1 Christ is made the sure foundation,  
Christ the head and cornerstone,  
chosen of the Lord, and precious,  
binding all the church in one,  
holy Zion's help forever,  
and her confidence alone.**
- 2 All within that holy city,  
dearly loved of God on high,  
in exultant jubilation  
sing, in perfect harmony,  
God the One in Three adoring  
in glad hymns eternally.**
- 3 We as living stones implore you,  
come among us, Lord, today;  
with your gracious loving kindness,  
hear Your children as we pray;  
and Your fullness of your blessing  
in our fellowship display.**
- 4 Here entrust to all your servants  
what we long from you to gain,  
that on earth and in the heavens  
we one people shall remain,  
till united in your glory  
evermore with you to reign.**

- 5 **Praise and honour to the Father,  
praise and honour to the Son,  
praise and honour to the Spirit,  
ever Three, and ever One,  
one in might, and one in glory,  
while eternal ages run.**

*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 Song of Moses*

- 1 I will sing to the Lord,  
for the Lord has triumphed gloriously:  
the horse and its rider have been thrown into the sea.
- 2 **The Lord is my strength and my song:  
and has become my salvation.**
- 3 This is my God, whom I will praise:  
the God of my forbears whom I will exalt.
- 4 **Who is like you O Lord among the gods:  
who is like you majestic in holiness?**
- 5 Who is like you O Lord among the gods:  
terrible in glorious deeds and doing wonders?
- 6 **In your unfailing love you will lead  
the people you have redeemed:  
in your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling.**
- 7 You will bring them in and plant them  
on the mountain of your inheritance:  
the place O Lord that you have made for your dwelling,
- 8 **the sanctuary O Lord that your hands have established:  
you Lord will reign for ever and ever.**

*Exodus 15:1, 2, 11, 13, 17*

*We sit or kneel*

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 way, and the truth, and the life,’ says the Lord.

‘No one comes to the Father except through me.’ *John 14:6*

*Collect of the Day*

Eternal God,  
your Son Jesus Christ  
is the way, the truth and the life for all creation;  
**grant us grace to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen.**

*Reading:*

**Acts 7: 55-60** - *Martyrdom of Stephen*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 31: 1-5, 15-16** (ANZPB)

- 1 In you Lord I have taken refuge:  
**let me never be put to shame,**
- 2 deliver me in your righteousness:  
**incline your ear to me, come quickly to my rescue.**
- 3 Be to me a rock of refuge:  
**a stronghold to keep me safe.**
- 4 You are to me a rock and a fortress:  
**for your names sake lead me and guide me.**
- 5 Release me from the net they have secretly laid for me:  
**for you O Lord are my strength.**

<sup>15</sup> I hear the whispering of many, fear is on every side:  
**while they conspire together against me,  
and plot to take away my life.**

<sup>16</sup> But my trust is in you O Lord:  
**I say, 'You are my God, my fortunes are in your hands.'**

*Reading:* **1 Peter 2: 2-10** - *God's chosen people*

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

*Gradual Hymn:* ***He came singing Love***

*AA59 – Words & Music: Colin Gibson - Tune: SINGING LOVE*

**1 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.**

**2 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.**

**3 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.**

**4 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.**

*Gospel Reading:* **John 14: 1-14** - *Christ the way, truth, life*

The Holy Gospel according to John, chapter fourteen,  
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.

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: **To Him we come**

SG679 – Words: James Seddon © Jubilate Hymns - Tune: **LIVING LORD**

- 1 To him we come - Jesus Christ our Lord,  
God's own living Word, his dear Son:  
in him there is no east and west,  
in him all nations shall be blessed;  
to all he offers peace and rest - loving Lord!**
- 2 In him we live - Christ our strength and stay,  
life and truth and way, friend divine:  
his power can break the chains of sin,  
still all life's storms without, within,  
help us the daily fight to win - living Lord!**
- 3 For him we go - soldiers of the cross,  
counting all things loss him to know;  
going to every land and race,  
preaching to all redeeming grace,  
building his church in every place - conquering Lord!**

*continued ... →*

- 4 With him we serve - his the work we share  
with saints everywhere, near and far;  
one in the task which faith requires,  
one in the zeal which never tires,  
one in the hope his love inspires - coming Lord!
- 5 Onward we go - faithful, bold, and true,  
called his will to do day by day  
till, at the last, with joy we'll see  
Jesus, in glorious majesty;  
live with him through eternity - reigning Lord!

### *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,  
your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is the way, the truth and the life.  
**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 with the sun;  
you are light in our darkness,  
warmth in our cold.  
**You are peace and hope and joy,  
for you went willingly to death.  
You turned defeat and failure to victory for all.  
You live eternally,  
and with you live the millions,  
living and dead, who trust in you.  
Alleluia! Amen.**

## The Blessing

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.**

*We share any notices and news*

### Closing Hymn: **Thine be the glory, Risen, conquering Son**

SG417 / Ancient & Modern Hymns (2013) #218

Words: after Edmond Budry, Richard Hoyle

Tune: **MACCABAEUS**

- 1 Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won;  
angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,  
kept the folded grave-clothes where thy body lay.**

*Refrain:*

**Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son,  
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

- 2 Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb;  
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom;  
let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,  
for her Lord now liveth, death hath lost its sting: [Refrain]**
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of Life;  
life is naught without thee: aid us in our strife;  
make us more than conquerors  
through thy deathless love;  
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above: [Refrain]**

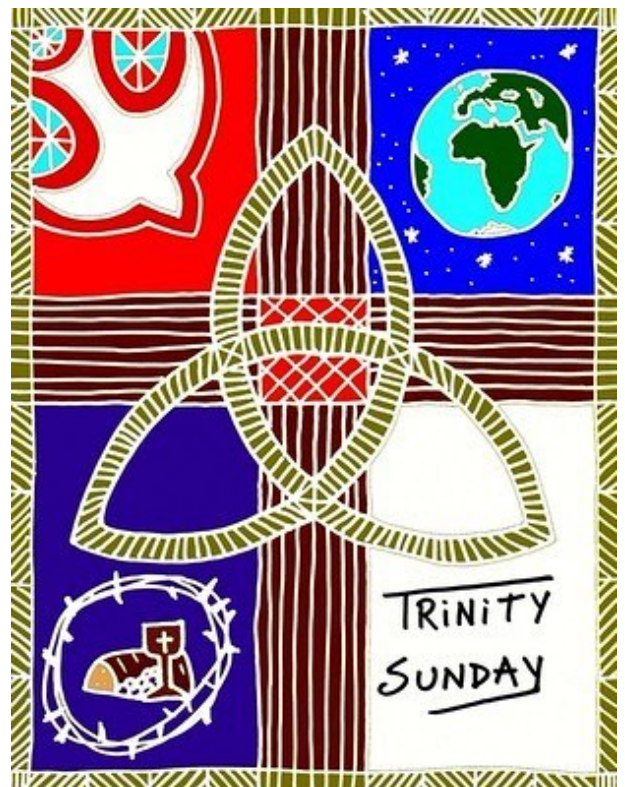
## The Dismissal

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.*



The Day of Pentecost -  
**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2026**  
St Matthew's: 8am & 10am  
St Peter's: 10am



Trinity Sunday - Confirmation and  
Renewal of Christian Commitment  
**31<sup>st</sup> May 2026**  
St Matthew's: 8am & 10am  
with Bishop Andrew Hedge



Acknowledgements:

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