

Welcome! Haere Mai!
St John's Anglican Church, Ōtūmoetai



Sunday, 19 April 2026
Easter 3/Parish AGM

Processional Hymn:

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
 The darkness deepens, Lord with me abide
 When other helpers fail and comforts flee
 Help of the helpless, O abide with me

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day
 Earth's joys grow dim it's glories pass away
 Change and decay in all around I see
 O Thou Who changest not, abide with me

I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r
 Who like Thyself, my guide and stay can be
 Through cloud and sunshine Lord, abide with me

I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless
 Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness
 Where is death's sting? Where grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still, if Thou abide with me

Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes
 Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies
 Heav'n's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

Welcome and Greeting:

In the name of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Giver of life. **Amen.**

Call to Worship:

Let us give thanks for the coming of God's reign of justice and love.

**Jesus Christ is good news for the poor,
release for the captives, recovery of sight for the blind
and liberty for those who are oppressed.**

Benedicite Aotearoa:

O give thanks to our God Who is good: Whose love endures for ever.

**You sun and moon, you stars of the southern sky:
give to our God your thanks and praise.**

Sunrise and sunset, night and day:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

**All mountains and valleys, grassland and scree,
glacier, avalanche, mist and snow: give to our God
your thanks and praise.**

You kauri and pine, rata and kōwhai, mosses and ferns:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

**Dolphins and kahawai, sealion and crab,
coral, anemone, pipi and shrimp:
give to our God your thanks and praise.**

Rabbits and cattle, moths and dogs, kiwi and sparrow
and tui and hawk: give to our God your thanks and praise.

**You Māori and Pākehā, women and men, all who inhabit
the long white cloud: give to our God your thanks and praise**

All you saints and martyrs of the South Pacific:
give to our God your thanks and praise.

Confession:

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned.
Let us confess our sins to the Lord, let us not conceal
our wrongdoings.

Silence

God forgives and heals us.

**We need Your healing, merciful God: give us true repentance.
Some sins are plain to us; some escape us;
some we cannot face.
Forgive us; set us free to hear Your word to us;
set us free to serve You.**

Absolution:

God forgives you. Forgive others; Forgive yourself.

Silence

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

Sentence:

Repent, and be baptised every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ
so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the
Holy Spirit. *Acts 2:38-39*

Collect:

**Jesus, we believe You; all we heard is true. You break the bread,
we recognise You, You are the fire that burns within us; use us
to light the world. Hear this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.**

A reading from the book of Acts: *Acts 2:14a, 36-41*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 116: 1-4, 12-18

I love You O Lord because You heard my voice

When I made my supplication

Because You turned Your ear to me

When I called upon Your Name

The cords of death entangled me and

the grip of Sheol laid hold on me

Distress and anguish descended upon me

Then I called upon the Name of the Lord

“Deliver me O Lord I beseech You” ...

I will take up the cup of salvation

and call on the Name of the Lord

I will pay my vows to the Lord

in the presence of all God’s people

Grievous in the sight of the Lord

is the death of a faithful servant

Lord I am Your servant, the child of Your maidservant

You have freed me from my bonds

I will offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving

and call on the Name of the Lord

I will pay my vows to the Lord

in the presence of all God’s people

in the courts of the Lord’s house

in your midst O Jerusalem. O praise the Lord.

**Glory to God, Source of all being, Incarnate Word,
and Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now and
will be forever. Amen.**

A reading from the first letter of Peter: 1 Peter 1:17-23

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn:

Breathe on me Breath of God
fill me with life anew
that as You love so may I love
and do what You would do

Breathe on me Breath of God
until my heart is pure
until my will is one with Yours
to do and to endure

Breathe on me Breath of God
fulfil my heart's desire
until this earthly part of me
glows with Your heav'nly fire

Breathe on me Breath of God
so shall I never die
but live with You the perfect life
of Your eternity.

Gospel:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Praise and glory to God.

Luke 24: 13-35

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ, the Word.

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed:

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**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.**

Prayers of the People:

Today we pray for the Anglican Indigenous Network and its work in developing, training, and resourcing its international members, and for the people of the Greater Hastings Parish and their clergy.

We pray also for those in need, especially those who have asked for our prayers: Craig, Viv, Lynda, Lawrence, Kathy, Reg, Jon.

The Peace:

To crown all things there must be love,
to bind all together and complete the whole.

Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts. *Colossians 3: 14 (adapted)*

May the peace of God be with you all.

In God's justice is our peace.

E te whānau / Brothers and sisters, Christ calls us to live in unity.

We seek to live in the Spirit of Christ.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Offertory Hymn:

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green He leadeth me
The quiet waters by

My soul He doth restore again
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness
E'en for His own Name's sake

Yea though I walk in death's dark vale
Yet will I fear no ill
For Thou art with me and Thy rod
And staff me comfort still

My table Thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes
My head Thou dost with oil anoint
And my cup overflows

Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me
And in God's House for evermore
My dwelling place shall be.

Prayer at the Preparation of the Table:

Blessed are You, Lord God of all creation:
through Your goodness we have this bread and wine to share,
which earth has given, and human hands have made.
They will become for us the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Blessed be God for ever.

The Great Thanksgiving:

The Spirit of God be with you

And also with you.

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 right indeed, to give You thanks most loving God,
through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, the first born from the dead,
the pioneer of our salvation, Who is with us always, one of us,
yet from the heart of God.

For with Your whole created universe, we praise You for
Your unfailing gift of life. We thank You that You make us human and
stay with us, even when we turn from You to sin.

**God's love is shown to us; while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.**

In that love, dear God, righteous and strong to save, You came among us
in Jesus Christ our crucified and living Lord.

You make all things new, in Christ's suffering and cross
You reveal Your glory and reconcile all peoples to Yourself,
their true and living God.

*In the power of endless life Christ is risen from the grave.
His death has broken death and opened for us the new and living
way. Christ is now our peace and our freedom and our joy.*

In Your mercy You are now our God. Through Christ You gather us,
new-born in Your Spirit, a people after Your own heart.

We entrust ourselves to You,
for You alone do justice to all people, living and departed.

**Now is the acceptable time,
now is the day of salvation.**

Therefore, with saints and martyrs, apostles and prophets,
with all the redeemed, joyfully we praise You and say:

**Holy, holy, holy, God of mercy, giver of life;
earth and sea and sky and all that lives,
declare Your presence and Your glory.**

All glory to You, Giver of life sufficient and full for all creation.
Accept our praises living God, for Jesus Christ, the one perfect offering
for the world, Who, in the night that He was betrayed
took bread, and when He had given You thanks, 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. This is My blood of the new covenant
which is shed for you and for many to forgive sin.
Do this as often as you drink it to remember Me.

Therefore, God of all creation, in the suffering and death
of Jesus our Redeemer, we meet You in Your glory.
We lift up the cup of salvation and call upon Your name.

Here and now, with this bread and wine,
we celebrate Your great acts of liberation,
ever present and living in Jesus Christ, crucified and risen,
Who was and is and is to come.

Amen! Come Lord Jesus.

May Christ ascended in majesty be our new and living way,
our access to You Father, and source of all new life.
In Christ we offer ourselves to do Your will.

Empower our celebrations with Your Holy Spirit, feed us with Your life,
fire us with your love, confront us with Your justice, and make us one in
the body of Christ with all who share Your gifts of love.

**Through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit,
with all who stand before You in earth and heaven,
we worship You, Creator God. Amen.**

As our Lord has taught us, let's sing together:

**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 forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of Bread:

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ
**We who are many are one body,
for we all share the one bread.**

The cup of blessing for which we give thanks
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

The Invitation:

Bread and wine; the gifts of God for the people of God.
**May we who share these gifts be found in Christ
and Christ in us.**

Communion

Post Communion Sentence:

We have called to mind Your steadfast love O God;
in the midst of Your temple.

Psalm 48: 9

Blessing:

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of His Son Jesus Christ ... and may the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life be with you, with all those you love, and with those you struggle to love, this day and always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn:

Rejoice the Lord is King
Your Lord and King adore
Mortals give thanks and sing
And triumph evermore

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice*

Jesus the Saviour reigns
The God of Truth and Love
When He had purged our stains
He took His seat above

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice*

His kingdom cannot fail
He rules o'er earth and heav'n
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus giv'n

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice*

He sits at God's right hand
Till all His foes submit
And bow to His command
And fall beneath His feet

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice*

Dismissal:

Haere i runga i te rangimarie, i runga i te aroha,
me te ngakau hihiko, ki te mahi, ki te Ariki.

Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

This service comes from "A New Zealand Prayer Book: He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa" p. 456
Thanksgiving and Praise and is used in accordance with GSTHW Canons and regulations.
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