

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



Sunday, 20th September 2026
Service of the Word - Ordinary Time 25

Processional Hymn

Great is your faithfulness, O God my Father
You have fulfilled all your promise to me
You never fail and your love is unchanging
All you have been you forever will be

*Great is your faithfulness, Great is your faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed your hand has provided.
Great is your faithfulness, Father to me*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above.
Join with all nature in eloquent witness
To your great faithfulness, mercy and love

*Great is your faithfulness, Great is your faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed your hand has provided.
Great is your faithfulness, Father to me*

Pardon for sin and a peace everlasting
Your living presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
These are the blessings your love will provide.

*Great is your faithfulness, Great is your faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed your hand has provided.
Great is your faithfulness, Father to me*

Welcome and Greeting:

We meet in the name of God,
the Creator, Redeemer and Giver of Life.

Amen.

The Gathering of the Community

E te whānau a te Karaiti,
welcome to this holy table;
welcome to you,
for we are Christ's body,
Christ's work in the world.
Welcome to you whose baptism makes you
salt of the earth and light to the world.

Rejoice and be glad.
Praise God who gives us forgiveness and hope.

Amen.

**Christ is our light,
the joy of our salvation.**

Praise and glory to Christ,
God's new beginning for humanity
making ritual water gospel wine,
cleansing all our worship.

**Love and loyalty to Christ,
who gives us the gospel.
Praise to Christ who calls us to holiness.**

Song of Praise

Christ is the living water
cleansing, refreshing, making all things new.
Christ is the living bread;
food for the hungry,
strength for the pilgrim and the labourer.

**So now we offer our thanks
for the beauty of these islands;
for the wild places and the bush,
for the mountains, the coast and the sea.**

**We offer thanks and praise to God for this good land;
for its trees and pastures,
for its plentiful crops
and the skills we have learned to grow them.**

**Our thanks for marae and the cities we have built;
for science and discoveries,
for our life together,
for Aotearoa, New Zealand.**

Forgiveness

God's whole creation groans.
The land produces thorns and thistles
and longs to be set free.
Our sin affects all around us.
As we move through this Season of Creation,
we lament all that we do to each other and to this world.

We confess our sin, and the sins of our society,
in the misuse of God's creation.
God our Loving Creator, we are sorry
for the times when we have used your gifts carelessly,
and acted ungratefully.
Hear our prayer, and in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We enjoy the fruits of the harvest,
but sometimes forget that you have given them to us.
Father, in your mercy:
All forgive us and help us.
We belong to a people who are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry.
Creating God, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We are thoughtless,
and do not care enough for the world you have made.

Father, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

We store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven.

Creating God, in your mercy:

All forgive us and help us.

Hear the word of God to all.

God shows love for us

in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Amen.

Silence

Rejoice and be glad,
for Christ is resurrection,
reconciliation for all the human race.

**We shall all be one in Christ,
one in our life together.**

**Praise to God who has created us,
praise to God who has accepted us,
praise to God who sends us into the world.**

Sentence

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing;
it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8–9

Collect

Grant us, Lord, your vision of a renewed earth in which heaven comes to rest; and even now, while we too often despair of healing and wholeness, to hold fast to your promise and commit again to active hope; through Jesus Christ the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and for ever.

A Reading from the Book of Exodus:

Exodus 16:2-15

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 105:1-6,36-44

Give thanks and call upon the name of the Lord:

make known to the nations what God has done.

Sing to God, O sing God's praise:

tell of all the wonderful deeds of the Most High.

Exult in God's holy name:

let the heart of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Turn for help to the Lord your strength:

and constantly seek God's presence.

Remember the marvellous things the Most High has done:

the wonders, and the judgments God has given,

O children of Abraham the servant of God:

O offspring of Jacob the chosen of the Lord.

You led Israel out, with spoil of silver and gold:

among the tribes not one person fell behind.

The Egyptians were glad when they went:

for dread of Israel had fallen upon them.

You O Lord spread out a cloud as a screen:

and fire to give light at night.

The people asked, and you sent them quails:

and you filled them with bread from heaven.

You opened a rock and water gushed out:

it flowed like a river through the arid land.

For you remembered your sacred promise:

which you had made to Abraham your servant.

So you led out your people rejoicing:

your chosen ones with songs of gladness.

You gave them the lands of the heathen:

and they took possession where others had toiled,

so that they might keep your statutes and obey your laws:

Whakamoemititia a Ihowā. / 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 Paul's letter to the Philippians:

Philippians 1:21-30

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God,
be still and know that I am God

I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee,
I am the Lord that healeth thee

In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust,
In thee, O Lord, I put my trust.

Gospel

Mark 4: 35-41

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark

Praise and glory to God.

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ the Word

The Homily/Reflection

Creed - Liturgical Affirmation

**You, O God, are supreme and holy.
You create our world and give us life.
Your purpose overarches everything we do.
You have always been with us.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are infinitely generous,
good beyond all measure.
You came to us before we came to you.**

**You have revealed and proved
your love for us in Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and rose again.
You are with us now.
You are God.**

**You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.
You are our God. We worship you.**

Offertory Hymn

Spirit of springtime in creation's garden,
 tingling the senses,
 tickling the earth,
sap that is rising where the seed was sleeping,
 push for a new world
 coming to birth!

Heard in the song that sweeps from hill to ocean,
 seen in the sunlight,
 felt in the blood,
surge of delight at every greening, growing,
 God in the promise,
 blossom from bud.

Fresh as the rain that washes clean our vision,
 keen as the wind on
 Pentecost day,
bright as the Spirit in the life of Jesus,
 bold as the mindset
 thinking his way.

Springtime of hope from out of winter's clutches,
 warm us to witness,
 woo us to see--
beauty will break through rotted leaves and ashes,
 joy will erupt and
 life will leap free!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

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 by God for ever.

The Prayers of the People

Today we pray for those who must migrate, rebuild, or change their way of life in the face of ever-changing climate including the Pacific Islands, facing the cruel routine of flooding, cyclones, and weather patterns that devastate agriculture, homes and development, and we pray for the people of the Gate Pa Parish and their clergy.

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

**Praise to you, abundant God,
for when we ask, you give;
when we seek, you show the way.
When we knock, you answer.
Praise to you for your unfailing grace.
Make us now your faithful people. Amen.**

As Christ teaches us we pray

**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 Peace:

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace.

Who breaks down the walls that divide.

The peace of God be always with you.

Praise to Christ Who unites us in peace.

Final prayer

May our Lord Jesus Christ who is the source of all goodness and growth
be with us to defend us,
within us to keep us,
before us to lead us,
beside us to guard us,
and above us to bless us. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn

How should we honour God's gift of creation?
How should we live on this planet, our home?
How should we live bringing peace to our neighbour?
We cannot do it, alone, on our own

Christ is the one at the heart of creation,
He comes to help us make sense of this life
He lifts our eyes to behold the Creator
calls us to live in peace not in strife

Christ is the one with a love for this planet,
seen in the stories he Hold day by day,
Speaking of springs, and of vines, and of lilies,
shaping the values we need for life's way

Christ is the one reaching out to our neighbour,
breaking the barriers of prejudice, greed,
Christ is the one who values the children.
He is the one whose example we need

Christ is the one at the heart of creation
Christ is the one who cares for this earth
Christ is the one who can break down the barriers.
Drink from his spring and sobering hope to birth.

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.

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