

**WAIAPU**



**CATHEDRAL**  
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

**Eucharistic Liturgy of New Fire  
and  
Renewal of Baptism**



**The Great Vigil of Easter  
Easter Eve at 7.00 pm**

## **Welcome to Waiapu Cathedral**

### **Dean of Waiapu:**

The Very Rev'd Ian Render

### **Presider:**

The Rev'd Dorothy Brooker

### **Director of Music:**

Anthony Tattersall

This service brings us from the darkness of Good Friday to the joy of resurrection.  
We begin the service at the cross where we gathered on Good Friday.

We hear the stories of Genesis and Exodus when God brought light out of darkness  
and led the people of Israel through the desert by fire.

We light the new fire of Easter and from there light the Paschal Candle.  
On the candle are painted the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet,  
Alpha and Omega.

In Revelation 21:6 the exalted Christ says  
*"I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."*

We make a cross on the candle with "nails" that have incense in them.

We then process the candle into the Cathedral and light the candles inside.  
The light heralds the resurrection of Christ.

We then renew our Baptismal vows following the tradition of the early church  
where the new converts, the catechumens, were baptised at dawn on Easter Day.

The paschal candle stays lit for all services during the fifty days  
of the Easter season and is removed on Ascension Day.

We use it then for baptisms and funerals  
as a link back to the Easter resurrection of our Lord.

## THE SERVICE OF LIGHT

*We gather outside.*

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,  
on this most holy night,  
when our Lord Jesus Christ passed from death to life,  
the Church invites her children throughout the world  
to come together in vigil and prayer.  
This is the Passover of the Lord.  
We remember his death and resurrection  
by hearing his word and celebrating his mysteries,  
confident that we shall share his victory over death  
and live with him for ever in God.

Fellow pilgrims on the Christian way,  
let us now listen to the story  
of how God saved the people of Israel  
by mighty acts in their history, and in the fullness of time  
came among us in Christ Jesus as our Redeemer.

**Reading: Genesis 1: 1 - 2: 4**

Gracious and eternal God,  
you created all things with a marvellous beauty and order;  
help us now to recognise how still more wonderful  
is the new creation you have fashioned in the fullness of time  
by redeeming your people through Jesus Christ,  
the true Passover lamb,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**Reading: Exodus 14: 10-30; 15: 20-21**

God of steadfast love,  
by the power of your mighty arm  
you delivered your chosen people from slavery under Pharaoh,  
giving us a sign of salvation through the waters of baptism;

grant that all the peoples of the earth  
may be numbered among the offspring of Abraham,  
and rejoice in the inheritance of your promises;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*We light the fire*

Redeeming God, source of life and light,  
you made this most holy night  
to shine with the brightness of your one true light;  
bless this new fire,  
set us aflame with the fire of your love,  
and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*The Paschal candle is marked and blessed*

Christ yesterday and today,  
the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega,  
all time belongs to him, and all ages;  
to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever.

**Amen.**

By his holy and glorious wounds  
may Christ our Lord guard and keep us.

**Amen.**

*The Paschal Candle is lit*

May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

*The Paschal candle is carried in procession into the Cathedral, and stops at the Font*

Christ our light - **Thanks be to God.**

**Reading: Ezekiel 37: 1-14**

Living God, by the Passover of your Son  
you have brought us out of sin into righteousness,  
and out of death into life;  
grant to those who are sealed by your Holy Spirit  
the will and power to proclaim you to all the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

*We move up the centre aisle and stop in the centre of the Nave*

Christ our light - **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 114**

- 1 When Israel came out of Egypt:  
**the house of Jacob from among a people of an alien tongue,**
- 2 Judah became the Lord's temple:  
**and Israel became God's kingdom.**
- 3 The sea fled at the sight of it:  
**and Jordan turned back in its course.**
- 4 The mountains skipped like rams:  
**and the hills like yearling sheep.**
- 5 Why was it that you fled O sea:  
**and you Jordan that you turned back,**
- 6 you mountains that you skipped like rams:  
**and you hills like yearling sheep?**
- 7 Tremble O earth at the presence of the Lord:  
**at the presence of the God of Jacob,**
- 8 who turned the hard rock into a pool of water:  
**and the flint-stone into a gushing spring.**

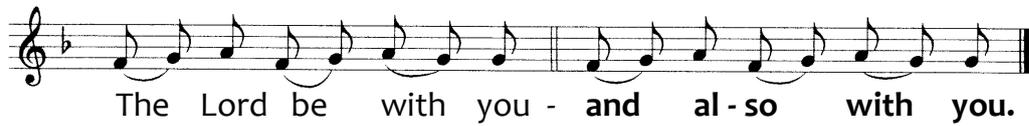
*The procession moves forward to the main altar; please gather around the altar rails*

Christ our light - **Thanks be to God**

*We move to our seats, then the **Exsultet** (The Proclamation of Easter) is sung:*

Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
O Universe, dance around God's throne!  
Jesus Christ, our King, is risen!  
Sound the victorious trumpet of salvation!  
Rejoice, O earth, in glory, revealing the splendour of your creation,  
radiant in the brightness of your triumphant King!

Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!  
Darkness vanishes for ever!  
Rejoice, O Mother Church! Exult in glory!  
The risen Saviour, our Lord of life, shines upon you!  
Let all God's people sing and shout for joy.



It is right and good that with full hearts and minds and voices  
we should praise you, Father almighty, the unseen God,  
through your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who has saved us by his death paid the price of Adam's sin  
and reconciled us once again to you.



For this is the Passover feast  
when Christ the true Lamb of God is slain  
whose blood consecrates the homes of all the faithful.  
**Glory to you for ever.**

This is the night when you first saved our ancestors,  
freeing Israel from her slavery,  
and leading her safely through the sea.  
**Glory to you for ever.**

This is the night when Jesus Christ vanquished hell  
broke the chains of death and rose triumphant from the grave.  
**Glory to you for ever.**

This is the night when all who believe in him are freed from sin,  
restored to grace and holiness, and share the victory of Christ.  
**Glory to you for ever.**

This is the night that gave us back what we had lost;  
beyond our deepest dreams  
you made even our sin a happy fault.

**Glory to you for ever.**

Most blessed of all nights,  
evil and hatred are put to flight and sin is washed away,  
lost innocence regained, and mourning turned to joy.

**Glory to you for ever.**

Night truly blessed, when hatred is cast out  
peace and justice find a home, and heaven is joined to earth.  
and all creation reconciled to you.

**Glory to you for ever.**

Therefore, heavenly Father, in this our Easter joy  
accept our sacrifice of praise, your Church's solemn offering.  
Grant that this Easter candle may make our darkness light.

**Glory to you for ever.**

For Christ the morning star has risen in glory.  
Christ is risen from the dead  
and his flame of love still burns within us!  
Christ sheds his peaceful light on the world!  
Christ lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**Reading: Romans 6: 3-11**

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

**Collect for Easter Eve:**

Eternal Giver of life and light,  
this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ.  
Renew your Church with the Spirit given to us in baptism,  
that we may worship you in sincerity and truth,  
and shine as a light in the world;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever, **Amen.**

**Gospel Reading:** [A] Matthew 28:1-10 [B] Mark 16: 1-8 [C] Luke 24:1-12

*All standing, the reader of the **Gospel** says*

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, chapter 16,  
beginning at the first verse

**Praise and glory to God.**

*After the Gospel reading:*

This is the Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to Christ, the Word.**

## **RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL VOWS**

*Priest:* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*All:* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Priest:* We thank you, almighty God, for the gift of water.  
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.  
Through water you led the children of Israel  
out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise.  
In water, your Son Jesus received the baptism of John  
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah,  
the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection,  
from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.  
We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.  
In it we are buried with Christ in his death.  
By it we share in his resurrection.  
Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.  
Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son,  
we celebrate our fellowship in him in faith.

We pray that all who have passed through the water of baptism  
may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

Dear friends, through the paschal mystery  
we have been buried with Christ in baptism,  
so that we may rise with him to a new life.

Now that our Lenten observance is ended,  
let us renew the promises we made in baptism,  
when we rejected Satan and all his works,  
and promised to serve God faithfully  
in his holy catholic Church.

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.**

Let us, the baptised, affirm that we renounce evil  
and commit our lives to Christ.  
**Blessed be God**  
**JESUS IS LORD!**

What is your faith?  
**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.**

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?  
**I will, with God's help.**

Will you forgive others as you are forgiven?  
**I will, with God's help.**

Will you seek to love your neighbour as yourself,  
and strive for peace and justice?  
**I will, with God's help.**

Will you accept the cost of following Jesus Christ  
in your daily life and work?

**I will, with God's help.**

With the whole church will you proclaim by word and action  
the Good News of God in Christ?

**I will, with God's help.**

God the creator, the rock of our salvation,  
has given us new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,  
and bestowed upon us the forgiveness of sins,  
through our Lord Jesus Christ.

May he keep us faithful to our calling, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The congregation is sprinkled with water as the following (or another) hymn is sung*

**Hymn:        *This is the night of new beginnings***

1. This is the night of new beginnings. This is the night when heaven meets earth. This is the night filled with God's glory, Promise of our new birth!	4. Sing of the hope deeper than dying. Sing of the power stronger than death. Sing of the love endless as heaven, Dawning throughout the earth. <i>Refrain.</i>
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Refrain:    *Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in our hearts.*

*Shine through the darkness.*

*Christ, be our light!*

*Shine in your Church gathered today.*

2. This is the night Christ our redeemer rose from the grave triumphant and free, Leaving the tomb of evil and darkness, Empty for all to see. <i>Refrain</i>	5. Into this world morning is breaking. All of God's people, lift up your voice. Cry out with joy, tell out the story, All of the earth rejoice. <i>Christ, be our light!</i> <i>Shine in our hearts.</i>
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3. Now will the fire kindled in darkness Burn to dispel the shadows of night. Star of the morning, Jesus our Saviour, You are the world's true light. <i>Refrain</i>	<i>Shine through the darkness.</i> <i>Christ, be our light!</i> <i>Shine in your Church gathered today.</i>
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Words and music: Bernadette Farrell
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## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Gracious God, we praise you  
for the resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
from the dead.

Shed his glorious light on all Christian people  
that we may live as those who believe  
in the triumph of the cross.

God of grace

**You hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who at this season are receiving in Baptism  
your Son's new life by water and the Spirit.  
Dying with Christ, may they know the power of his resurrection.

God of grace

**You hear our prayer.**

We pray for all whom we know and love, both near and far.  
May their eyes be opened to see the glory of the risen Lord.

God of grace

**You hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who suffer pain and anguish.  
Grant them the faith to reach out towards the healing wounds  
of Christ and be filled with his peace.

God of grace

**You hear our prayer.**

We remember before you those who have died in the hope  
of the resurrection. Unite us with them in your undying love.

God of grace

**You hear our prayer.**

Join our voices, we pray, loving God,  
to the songs of all your saints in proclaiming that you give us  
the victory through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Risen Christ, come in your victorious power,  
affirm in us the goodness of God,  
give us new life, reconcile us in peace,  
assure us of your final triumph,  
make us faithful in witness, fulfil in us your promises.  
**Amen.**

*We stand*

## **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The following hymn, or another is sung here after sharing the Peace of Christ:*

## **Offertory Hymn: O Risen Christ still wounded**

Tune: PASSION CHORALE

- 1 O risen Christ, still wounded, triumphant, broken life,  
whose glory holds within it the scars of human strife:  
may we your living body, the church that bears your name,  
be like-wise true in bearing the marks of hurt and shame.
- 2 O risen Christ, still feeding, with fish and bread and wine,  
whose care becomes incarnate when word and deed combine:  
so may your church be mindful of every human need,  
to nourish souls and body and hungry hearts to feed.
- 3 O risen Christ, still reigning, to let love's power be shown,  
you took our human nature and made a cross your throne:  
convert your church from thinking that worldly power is good;  
awake us to discover true strength in servant-hood.

Words: Carl Daw Jr

## **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Christ is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

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.**

Honour and worship are indeed your due,  
our Lord and our God, through Jesus Christ,  
for you created all things;  
by your will they were created,  
and for your glory they have their being.

In your loving purpose you chose us  
before the foundation of the world to be your people;  
you gave your promises to Abraham and Sarah  
and bestowed your favour on the Virgin Mary.

Above all we give you thanks and praise  
for your grace in sending Jesus Christ,  
not for any merit of our own  
but when we had turned away from you.

We were bound in sin,  
but in your compassion you redeemed us,  
reconciling us to yourself with the precious blood of Christ.

In your Son you suffered with us and for us,  
offering us the healing riches of salvation  
and calling us to freedom and holiness.

You raised him to life triumphant over death;  
you exalted him in glory.  
By his victory over death, the reign of sin is ended,  
a new age has dawned, a broken world is restored  
and we are made whole once more.

Therefore with people of every nation, tribe and language,  
with the whole Church on earth and in heaven,  
joyfully we give you thanks and say/sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and honour to you, God of grace,  
for you gave your only Son Jesus Christ  
once for all on the cross to be the one perfect sacrifice  
for the sin of the world,  
that all who believe in him might have eternal life.

The night before he died,  
he took bread, and 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,  
and when he had given you thanks,  
he gave it to them and said:  
Drink this, all of you,  
for this is my blood of the new covenant  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins;  
do this as often as you drink it,  
to remember me.

Therefore heavenly Father,  
in this sacrament of the suffering and death of your Son,  
we now celebrate the wonder of your grace  
and proclaim the mystery of our faith.

**Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come in glory.**

Redeemer God, rich in mercy, infinite in goodness,  
we were far off until you brought us near  
and our hands are empty until you fill them.  
As we eat this bread and drink this wine,  
through the power of your Holy Spirit  
feed us with your heavenly food,  
renew us in your service, unite us in Christ,  
and bring us to your everlasting kingdom.  
O the depths and riches of your wisdom, O God;  
how unsearchable are your judgments  
and untraceable your ways.

**From you, and through you, and for you are all things.  
To you be the glory for ever. Amen.**

As Christ teaches us we pray, saying/singing

**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.**

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.

*All are welcome to receive the bread and wine of Christ's life, or to receive a blessing.*

### **Post-Communion Sentence:**

All you who have been baptised have been clothed with Christ.  
Alleluia. *Galatians 3:27*

### **Prayer after Communion**

Lord God, you have made this night bright  
with the radiance of the risen Christ;  
**may we who have been raised with him in baptism  
reflect the light of his glory,  
and live with him for ever. Amen.**

The following, (or another Easter hymn) is sung

**Hymn: Word that formed creation**

1: Word that formed creation, earth and sea and sky;  
Word that brings salvation, Word that will not die;  
speak now in us that we might hear your call;  
Living Word of Jesus, sound within us all.

2: Love that formed and named us, filled this clay with breath;  
Love that seeks and claims us, Love beyond all death;  
come now and fire the life that flows from you;  
Love that raised up Jesus, raise us up anew.

3: Song of joy and wonder, sound so wild and free;  
voice of wind and thunder, boundless as the sea;  
Music of God, the love that casts out fear;  
Song that sang in Jesus, sing within us here.

4: God of all creation, form our hearts anew;  
God of our salvation lead us home to you;  
Spirit inspire our hearts to hear your call;  
Living God of Jesus, come renew us all!

*Words: Marty Haugen - Tune NOEL NOUVELET (French Trad.)*



**The Blessing** is given but no Dismissal  
as we wait until the end of the Eucharist tomorrow  
to be sent out into the world.

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