

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Waiapu Cathedral of
St. John the Evangelist

*A virtual Ante-Communion:
10.00 am, May 17, 2020*

The Promise of the Spirit



Informal welcome as we gather, then please mute your mic.

Bishop Andrew:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

This is the day which the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

SENTENCE for Easter 6:

Jesus said, "I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever." (*John 14:21*)

INTROIT: *from the Tattersall household*

CALL TO WORSHIP *Led by the Liturgist*

O Divine Voice,

You sing and the universe comes into being;

O Divine Breath,

You breathe and all things spring to life;

O Divine Word,

You call and creation is sustained;

O Divine Flesh,

**You are born among us,
and the Creator is clothed in creation;**

O Divine Spirit,

You fill all that has been formed;

O Divine Life,

You are the pulse of all that is.

continued/

CALL TO WORSHIP *continued...*

And so, in amazement and awe,
in wonder and celebration
we marvel at this mystery:

In you all things live and move and have being,

In all things, you live and move
and express your Divine artistry;

And so we join with all creation

in the eternal song of worship and wonder

as we bring your many names to mind:

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(The opening hymn follows here)

HYMN: *Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud*

1: Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud,
Fortress, Fountain, Shelter, Light,
Judge, Defender, Mercy, Might,
Life whose life all life all endowed:

*May the church at prayer recall
that no single holy name
but the truth that feeds them all
is the God whom we proclaim.*

/continued

2: Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine,
Shepherd, Saviour, Servant, Lamb,
Well and Water, Bread and Wine,
Way who leads us to I AM:

*May the church at prayer recall
that no single holy name
but the truth that feeds them all
is the God whom we proclaim.*

/continued

3: Storm and Stillness, Breath and Dove,
Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire,
Comfort, Counsellor, Presence, Love,
Energies that never tire

*May the church at prayer recall
that no single holy name
but the truth that feeds them all
is the God whom we proclaim.*

Thomas H. Troeger – Tune: ABERYSTWYTH

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

Liturgist:

Hear God's word to all. God shows love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us.

Amen.

If we confess our sins,
God is just, and may be trusted to forgive our sins
and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.

In silence we call to mind our sins.

Silence

Let us confess our sins.

**God of grace, we confess that we have sinned,
in what we have thought, and said, and done.
Forgive us for the sake of Jesus Christ
our Way, and Truth, and Life.
Amen.**

The Absolution is declared by the bishop, saying

God forgives your sins.
Know that God pardons you and sets you free.
Amen.

Form of confession from “The Ministry of Healing” NZPB/HKMOA

COLLECT *for the 6th Sunday of Easter:*

Liturgist:

Let us pray for the faith to trust in Christ's companionship:

God who speaks in silence;

help us to await your word in quietness.

When it seems as though you are absent,

grant us the faith to know your abiding Presence

bringing to fulfilment the work you have started.

We make this prayer for your love's sake. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR MEDITATION

Say these words from Ps. 62 a few times, in silence or aloud.



HYMN: *Come down, O love divine*

Come down, O Love divine!
seek out this soul of mine
and visit it with your own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.

2: O, let it freely burn
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let your glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and make my pathway clear,
by your illuming. */continued*

3: Let holy charity
my outward vesture be,
and lowliness become my inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart
which takes the humbler part,
and for its own shortcomings
weeps with loathing.

4: And so the yearning strong
with which the soul will long
shall far surpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace
till we become the place
in which the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

*Jubilate Hymns version of "Discendi, amor santo", Bianco da Siena (fl.1367 - 1434)
adapted by Richard F Littledale (1833 – 1890) Tune: DOWN AMPNEY*

First Reading: *Acts 17:22-31, read by the Liturgist*

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, ‘Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, “To an unknown god.” What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, the Sovereign of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, and isn’t served by human hands, as though in need of anything. No! God is the One who gives everyone life, breath-- everything.

/continued

From one ancestor God created all of humankind to inhabit the entire earth, and set the time for each nation to exist, and the exact place where each nation should dwell. God did this so human beings would seek, reach out for, and perhaps find the One who is not really far from any of us– the One in whom we live, move, and have our being.

As one of your poets has put it, “We too are God’s children.”

continued/

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. God who overlooked the times of human ignorance, now commands all people everywhere to repent, for a day has been set when the whole world will be judged with justice. And this judge, who is a human being, has already been appointed. God has given proof of all this by raising this judge from the dead.'

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *He is Lord*

1: He is Lord, he is Lord;
He is risen from the dead,
and he is Lord;
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess
That Jesus Christ is Lord.

2: He is love, he is love;
He has shown us by his cross
that he is love;
All his people sing with one voice of joy
That Jesus Christ is love.

continued/

3: He is life, he is life;
He has died to set us free
and he is life;
And he calls us all to live evermore
For Jesus Christ is life.

4: He is King, he is King,
He will call all nations to him,
he is King;
And the time shall be when the world shall sing
That Jesus Christ is King.

Author unknown. Tune: HE IS LORD

THE GOSPEL introduced by Bishop Andrew:

The Holy Gospel according to John chapter 14
(sung): **Praise and glory to God.**



Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,
Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff contains three measures of music, each with the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia,' underneath. The second staff contains one measure of music with the lyrics 'Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia.' underneath. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes with various rests and slurs.

‘If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the One who sent me to give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees nor knows the Truth. But you know, because the Truth abides with you, and will be in you. /continued

‘I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.’

This is the Gospel of Christ.

(sung:) **Praise to Christ, the Word.**

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,

Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia.

REFLECTION: Bishop Andrew, *followed by*
DISCUSSION in Breakout Rooms:

A LITANY, affirming our abiding in Christ:

Liturgist:

God, our Holy Parent, watches over us
with love and deep compassion.

(All:) **We have not been orphaned.**

Jesus, our brother and the pioneer of our faith,
leads us by truth, in word and deed.

We have not been orphaned.

The Holy Spirit, our Advocate, Guide,
and constant companion,
breathes in us day and night.

We have not been orphaned.

The community of the faithful exists
beyond time and space.

We have not been orphaned.

The Word of Hope recedes into the past
and marches forward into the future,
carrying us through life on its way.

We have not been orphaned.

Thanks be to God.

We have not been orphaned.

*written by Lutheran Julia, and posted on **RevGalBlogPals**.*

<http://revgalblogpals.org/>

ANTHEM: *from the Tattersall household*
“

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

... Out of your love and mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Concluding collect (said together):

**Reveal your presence with them and with us, God of life,
that as people of renewed faith and vitality,
we may be empowered to serve your world,
and so give glory to you;
for we offer our prayers and our thanksgivings
in the name of Jesus Christ our Healer and Companion,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and forever. Amen.**

(The leader continues:)

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.**

HYMN: *From this holy time*

1: From this holy time, from this sacred space,
we go now to serve our own day and place,
committed to follow the way Jesus trod:
do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God.

2: He lives in our midst, though gone from our sight,
baptised in his name, we walk in his light;
we treasure his presence, example and word:
do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God.

3: Let this be our life, till Christ comes again -
to love as he loves and work for God's reign,
this song in our hearts and this sign on our road:
do justly, love mercy, walk humbly with God.

Marnie Barrell, Tune: LAUDATE DOMINUM

Loving God,
in Jesus you offer life to the world
and love to its people.
When we see life only for ourselves,
challenge and change us.

**Help us to hear your transforming love
speaking to us of respect, dignity and worth,
telling us that we are loved
and that we are to love one another.
In the knowledge of this love
work through us
to bring your justice to the world,
in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*~ posted on the Monthly Prayers page of the Christian
Aid website. <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>*

RESPONSIVE BLESSING: Led by *Bishop Andrew*

May the blessings of the One who is the Way
be with you in the days to come.

May God guide our feet wherever we go.

May the blessings of Jesus who is our Life
be with you in the days to come.

**May Christ lead us by the hand to those who are
our sisters and brothers in need.**

May the blessings of the Spirit of Truth
be with you in the days to come.

**May we journey with the Spirit to that
way which is everlasting. Amen.**

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THE DISMISSAL OF THE COMMUNITY

Grace be with you.

Thanks be to God.

Go in peace.

Amen. We go in the name of Christ.

FREE CONVERSATION

In breakout groups for those who would like to remain

This form of service is authorised under the Formulary of this Church:

“A form for ordering a service of the Word”

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