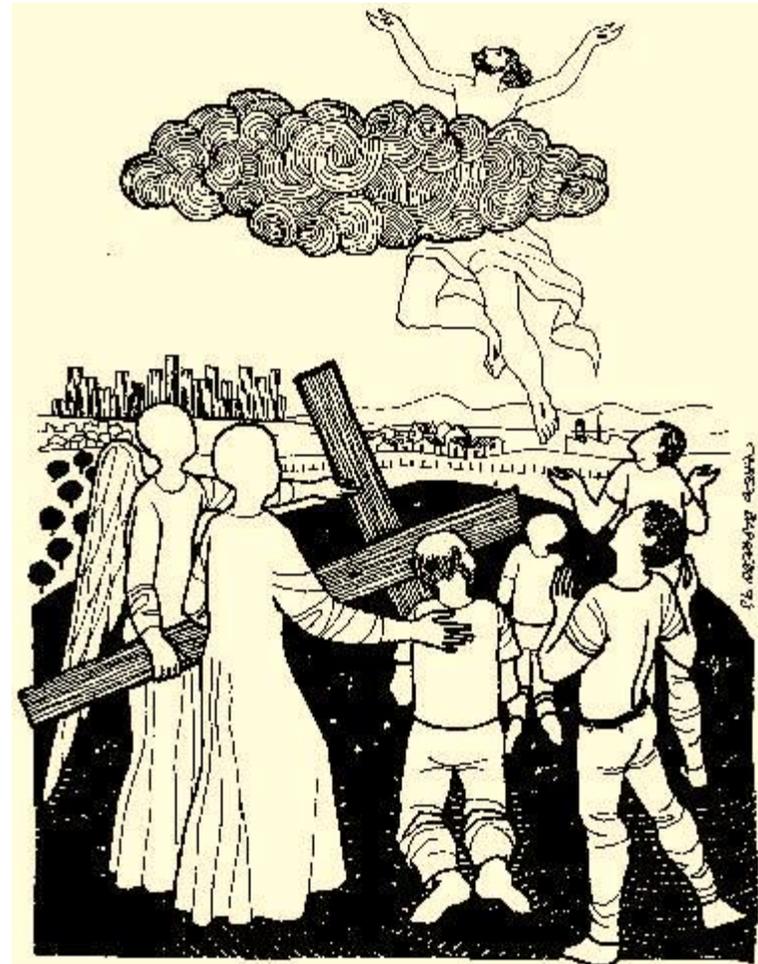


The Seventh Sunday of Easter

Waiapu Cathedral of
St. John the Evangelist

*A virtual Ante-Communion:
10.00 am, May 24, 2020*

*The Sunday after the
Ascension*



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

Bishop Andrew:

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Lord be with you.

The Lord bless you.

SENTENCE for Easter 7:

Jesus said, “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (*Acts 1:8*)

INTROIT: *from the Tattersall household*

“

CALL TO WORSHIP *Led by the Liturgist* ()

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new world has broken into ours—

**a world in which justice does come for the poor,
freedom comes for the prisoners,
and healing for the sick.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new community has been formed—

**a community that loves and cares for all members,
a family that welcomes all
who are abandoned and rejected,
a place where all find a place of belonging.**

continued/

CALL TO WORSHIP *continued...*

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
a new creation has begun—

**all that was distorted is being restored,
all that is corrupted is being renewed,
all that was broken is being made whole.**

Because Jesus ascended and sits at the right hand of God,
God's new world has begun.

Love now reigns over all things. Come let us worship!

Christine Sine

(The opening hymn follows here)

HYMN: *Where mountains rise to open skies*

1: Where mountains rise to open skies
your name, O God, is echoed far,
from island beach to kauri's reach,
in water's light, in lake and star.

2: Your people's heart, your people's part
be in our caring for this land,
for faith to flower, for aroha
to let each other's mana stand.

/continued

3: From broken word, from conflict stirred,
from lack of vision, set us free
to see the line of your design,
to feel creation's energy.

4: Your love be known, compassion shown,
that every child have equal scope:
in justice done, in trust begun
shall be our heritage and hope.

5: Where mountains rise to open skies
your way of peace distill the air,
your spirit bind all humankind,
one covenant of life to share!

Shirley Erena Murray, Tune: DUNEDIN

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

In silence let us call to mind our sins. *(Silence)*

We repent the wrongs we have done:
Silence

We have wounded your love.

O God, heal us.

We stumble in the darkness.

Light of the world transfigure us.

We forget that we are your home.

Spirit of God, dwell in us.

Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
**all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to you,
to the very secret of our hearts
and all that rises to trouble us.**
**Living flame burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.**

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 “Night Prayer” NZPB/HKMOA

COLLECT *for the 7th Sunday of Easter:*

Liturgist:

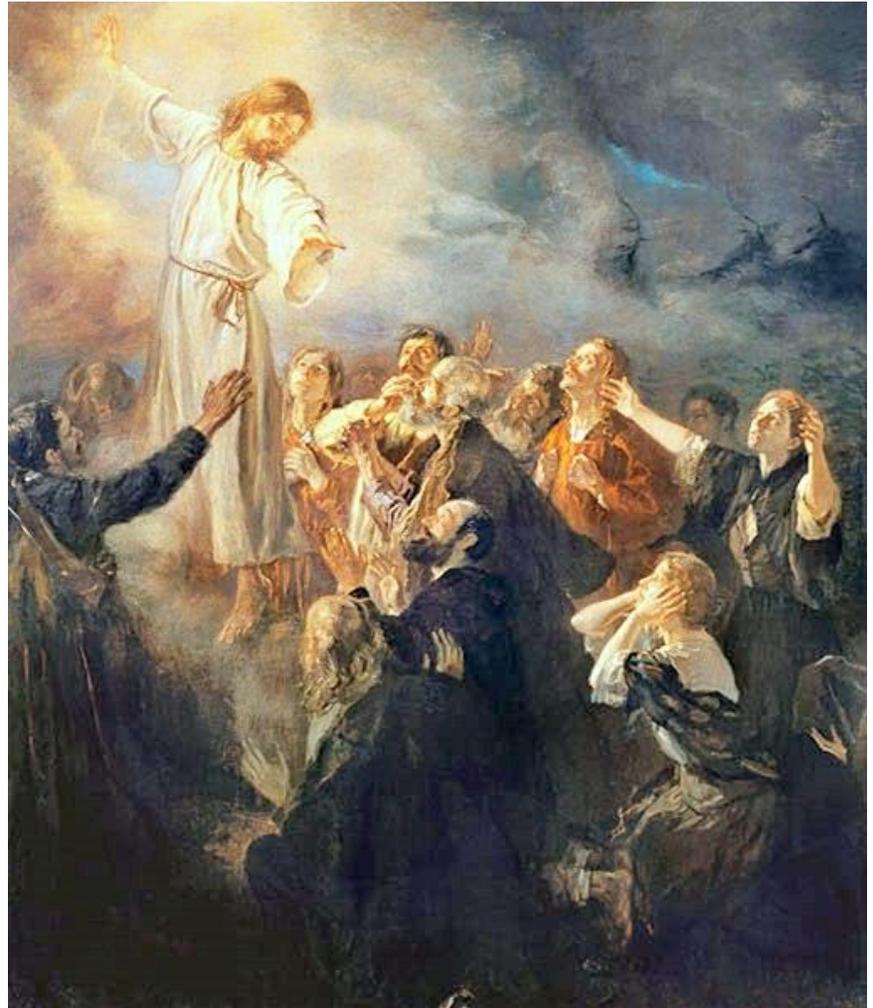
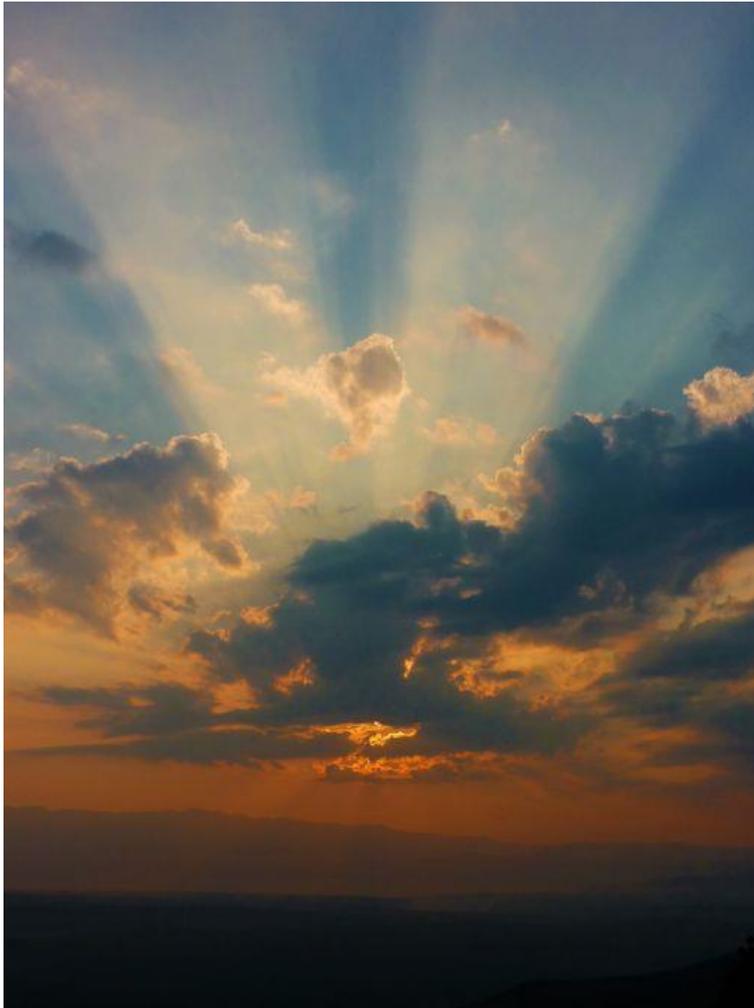
Let us pray for a deeper awareness
of the Holy Spirit's work in our lives:

Holy God,
you have not left us alone
but promised your abiding protection.
In all we face,
grant us such a knowledge of your presence,
and abiding care,
that nothing can destroy our trust.

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

A MOMENT FOR MEDITATION

Which of these images speaks to you more of the Ascension?



HYMN: *A hymn for Ascension*

1: Christ ascends to God! Behold him
here, where earth and heaven meet.
Unimagined powers enfold him,
mortals worship at his feet.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

all his mission now complete.

2: God receives him into mystery -
clouds of glory veil the sight;
no more bound to human history,
strong as love and free as light.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

now to reign in his own right.

/continued

3: He is with us. Do not seek him
throned in splendour far above:
meet him here where truth and freedom
now reveal his work of love.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

countless signs his presence prove.

4: Universal Lord, now reigning
deep in nature's smallest part,
all things live by your sustaining,
time and space your work of art.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

praise to Christ, creation's heart.

*Marnie Barrell, Tune: ST. HELEN
text used by kind permission of the author*

First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

So when they had come together, the disciples asked Jesus, ‘Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?’ He replied, ‘It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.’

When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said,

/continued

‘Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.’ Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day’s journey away.

When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN: *He came singing love*

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.

He came singing *faith*...
(for the *faith* to go on...)

He came singing *hope*...

He came singing *peace*...

Colin Gibson, tune: SINGING LOVE

THE GOSPEL *introduced by The Rev'd Deborah Broome:*

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 treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 6/8 time signature. The first staff contains three measures of music, each with a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note, and a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia,' are written below the notes. The second staff contains a single measure with a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note, and a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. The lyrics 'Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia.' are written below the notes.

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, ‘Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

/continued

I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours.

/continued

All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of A major (two sharps), 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 sixteenth notes, with some beamed eighth notes and dotted rhythms.

REFLECTION: The Rev'd Deborah Broome, *followed by*

DISCUSSION in Breakout Rooms:

How is Christ preparing us for mission,
preparing us to be church more than ever?

“Knowing God and Jesus”:
what does a relationship with God mean for you?
(*Be as specific as you can.*)

An Affirmation of Faith from 1 Timothy:

Liturgist:

“Wonderful indeed is the mystery of our religion, as we say in our profession of faith”

**Christ Jesus our Messiah was manifested in the flesh:
was vindicated in the Spirit;
seen by angels:
and proclaimed among the nations;
believed on in the world:
and taken up in glory.**

/continued

**Jesus will be revealed in due time by God:
the blessed and only ruler,
the sovereign over all
who alone has immortality:
and who dwells in unapproachable light,
whom no one has ever seen or can see:
to whom alone be honour and might
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

1 Timothy 3:16; 6:15,16, The Inclusive Bible

ANTHEM: *from the Tattersall household*
“

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *Bishop Murray Mills*

(The Intercessor 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: *When all is ended*

1: When all is ended, time and troubles past,
shall all be mended, sin and death outcast?

In hope we sing, and hope to sing at last:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

2: As in the night, when lightning flickers free,
and gives a glimpse of distant hill and tree,
each flash of good discloses what will be:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

3: Against all hope, our weary times have known
wars ended, peace declared, compassion shown,
great days of freedom, tyrants overthrown:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

/continued

4: Then do not cheat the poor, who long for bread,
with dreams beyond the skies, or in the head,
but sing of slaves set free, and children fed:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

5: With earthy faith we sing a song of heaven:
all life fulfilled, all loved, all wrong forgiven.
Christ is our sign of hope, for Christ is risen:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

6: With all creation, pain and anger past,
evil exhausted, love supreme at last,
alive in God, we'll sing an unsurpassed

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Brian A. Wren, Tune: SINE NOMINE

(Liturgist):

People of God,

let us not just stand here, gazing into heaven
as the disciples did after they saw Jesus leave.

Instead, let us take up the mission Jesus left us:

to be faithful witnesses,

to tell everyone we meet who Jesus is,

and how our lives have been transformed.

And may the grace of God,

the love of Jesus Christ,

and the presence of the Holy Spirit

go with us all.

Amen.

based on Acts 1.

THE DISMISSAL OF THE COMMUNITY

Liturgist:

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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Some of the New Testament texts: The Inclusive Bible - Priests for Equality

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