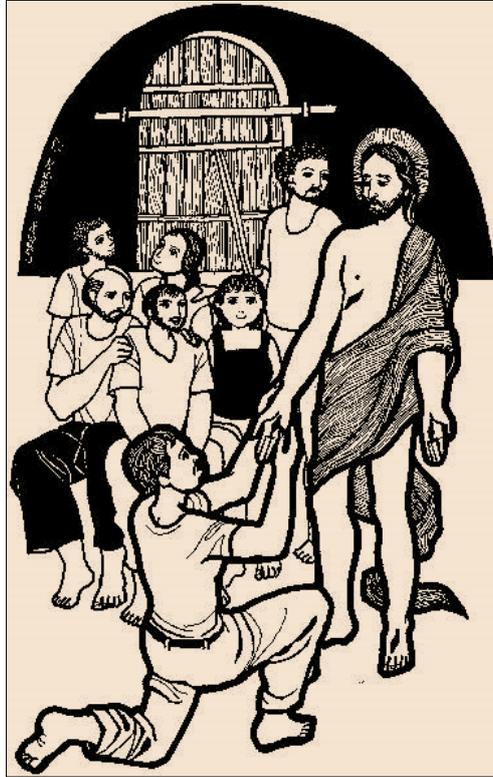


# The second Sunday of Easter

*Waiapu Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist*

Ante-Communion: 10.00 am, 19 April 2020



*Informal welcome as we gather*

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

SENTENCE *for Easter 2:*

Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have come to believe.

*John 20:29*

INTROIT: *Kerry and Anthony Tattersall*

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Though we find ourselves isolated  
in homes, apartments, and retirement villages,  
**yet, we are able listen to the birds singing,  
reminding us that the whole creation  
rejoices in the love of our God.**

Though we cannot reach out and touch  
our friends and neighbours,  
**yet we may rejoice that Jesus is in our midst,  
holding out wounded hands of grace and hope to us!**

Though we have to stand at a safe distance from others,  
as though we were contagious ourselves,  
**we know that the Spirit is all around us,  
enfolding us in the divine embrace,  
breathing peace on us in moments of anxiety,  
surrounding us with grace and hope.  
Come, let us worship.**

*Adapted from Thom. M. Shuman, Lectionary Liturgies*

*HYMN: Jesus stand among us*

Jesus, stand among us in your risen power;  
let this time of worship be a hallowed hour.

Breathe the Holy Spirit into every heart;  
bid the fears and sorrows from each soul depart.

Thus with quickened footsteps we'll pursue our way,  
watching for the dawning of eternal day.

*Words: W. Pennefather, Tune: NORTH COATES*

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE:

Recognising our failures in faith, hope, and love,

In silence before God, let us confess our sins. (*Silence*)

God forgives us. Be at peace. (*Silence*)

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

*The minister and people say*

**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.**

Let us pray for a mature faith to meet uncertain times with trust:

**God of mystery,  
you affirm our right to question  
what we find hard to know.**

**Grant us the maturity of faith  
that knows when to question  
and when to trust.**

**Through Jesus Christ our Liberator,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: *Acts 2:14a, 22-32*

Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know- this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. For David says concerning him, 'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will live in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

"Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, 'He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.

PSALM: 16

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

**I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."**

As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

**Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.**

The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.**

I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

**For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

*HYMN: Morning of mornings, Jesus has risen*

1: Morning of mornings, Jesus is risen,  
over the sealed grave victor to be!  
praising with joyful songs of thanksgiving;  
new every morning this life in me.

2: Morning of mornings, darkness is over,  
no guard could hold him, nor stone enclose;  
Son of the Most High came forth in glory;  
Jesus the Saviour from death arose.

3: Morning of mornings, Jesus' disciples  
struggled with sadness, doubting and fears,  
but, when they saw him in all his glory,  
knew he had risen - gladness for tears!

*Brian Black (b.1926), tune: BUNESSAN*

John 20: 19-31

**Praise and glory to God**

*Alleluia follows, sung twice*



of

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

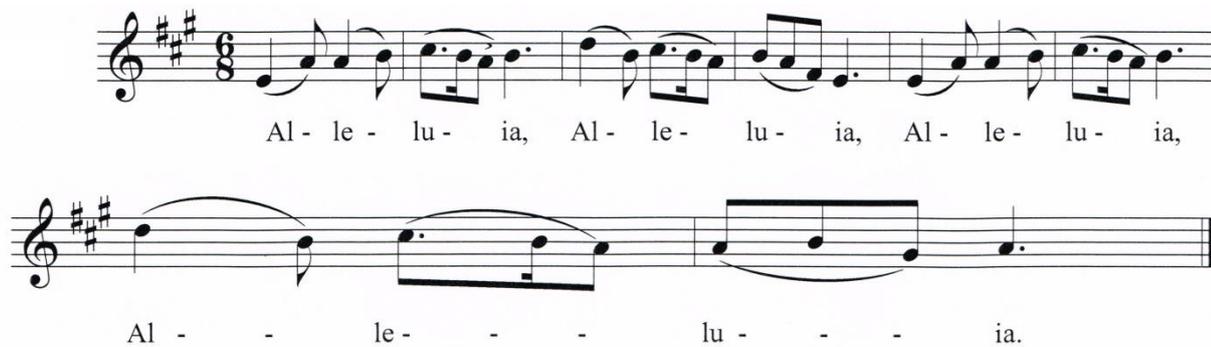
A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."

Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.

But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

This is the Gospel of Christ. **Praise to Christ the Word.**



REFLECTION and DISCUSSION *The Rev'd Dr. Howard Pilgrim*

HYMN: *My Lord and God, the living One.*

1: My Lord, my God, the Living One!  
God's mighty power has raised the Son,  
bestowed the title "Lord of lords"  
and bidden followers spread the Word.

2: My Lord, my God, the Living One!  
Our troubling doubts are overcome;  
with Thomas now Christ's wounds we see,  
undoubted proofs of victory.

3: My Lord, my God, the Living One!  
What Easter wonders have been done.  
Like Thomas we rejoice to know  
that death is a defeated foe.

*continued*

4: My Lord, my God, the Living One!  
That death and life, we make our own.  
We die to past mistakes and wrongs;  
we rise with Christ to sing new songs.

5 My Lord, my God, the Living One!  
The Lamb triumphant on the throne  
with resurrection flag unfurled  
extends God's pardon to the world.

*David Mowbray (adapted), Tune: FULDA*

#### A CELEBRATION OF FAITH:

Holy One, we celebrate  
that where people are gathered together in love:

**You are present, and good things happen and life is full.**

We celebrate  
that we are immersed in your mystery  
our lives are more than they seem:  
**We belong to each other  
and to a universe of great creative energies,  
whose source and destiny is you, our God.**

We celebrate  
that your spirit beat in the heart of Jesus of Nazareth:  
**The good news of your healing, embracing and liberating love  
was heard by the broken, the lonely  
and all bound by life's sorrows and struggles.**

We celebrate  
that the spirit of peace and hope is present  
with us and through us:

**In our struggle to love  
we incarnate your holy presence in our world.**

And so, aware of the hurts and longings all of us carry,  
the awe and wonder that is around us,  
and the gifts of faith and this community of faith:

**We pause to become ever more aware  
of the sacredness of our lives.**

In that awareness and faith may we act and speak and live. **Amen.**

*Rex A. E. Hunt*

ANTHEM:

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: *The Rev'd Dorothy Brooker, concluding with*  
THE LORD'S PRAYER:

We commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,  
to the mercy and protection of God, praying as Christ taught us:

**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.**

Faithful God, accept these prayers  
for the sake of your Son,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN: *O risen Christ, still wounded*

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 likewise 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 bodies  
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 servanthood.

*Carl P. Daw, Jr. Tune: AURELIA*

CONCLUSION, BLESSING and DISMISSAL:

Scattered from one another,  
we can still go with God into the world.

**We will offer healing and hope to all  
who wander in the shadows of life.**

Separated from one another,  
we can still go with Jesus to serve others.

**We will listen to the ignored;  
we will speak out for the forgotten.**

Despite the limitations upon our lives,  
we can still join the Spirit in offering steadfast love.

**We will remain close to the solitary;  
we will celebrate the power of community.**

*Thom M. Shuman*

*Bishop Andrew will give the Blessing*

Go now to serve the risen Lord, go in peace.

**Amen. We go in the name of Christ.**

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