



# ORDER OF SERVICE

17<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2025

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

**THE PASSOVER/LAST SUPPER IN THE UPPER ROOM**

## WELCOME TO ST ANDREW'S ON THE TERRACE

Wherever you are on your faith journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to, whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome here.

We recognise that being inclusive is an ongoing journey and we are continuing to learn. We are committed to challenging discrimination within the church and wider society.

Please join in the congregational responses printed in ***bold italics***.

Please stand if you are able, for the hymns and the offering prayer.

We usually sing the hymns without announcement.

*Please note your nearest fire exit. The church and hall have been earthquake strengthened.*

*In an earthquake: drop, cover and hold.*

## WELCOME: A SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR FRIENDS FROM TE KAKANO O TE AROHA.

E nga mana, e nga reo, e nga rangatira ma, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena tatou katoa. E te whānau a Te Karaiti, ngā mihi aroha ki a tātou katoa.

***Kia ora tātou.***

Ou te faatalofa atu i le Suafa o Iesu Keriso

***Talofa lava, we too greet you in the name of Jesus Christ***

The time is near. Our Lenten walk with Jesus approaches its ending – the moment of stark understanding of power and powerlessness. Tonight, we remember the last meal Jesus shared with his friends.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us enter this moment in spirit and in truth.

Let us bring all we are, the honest reality of our humanness.

Here we remember Jesus,

who takes his last steps towards the cross,

yet holds in his hands the bread and wine of life.

***Sacred mystery and mercy,***

***Be with us as we draw near in remembrance.***

## SONG

by Shirley Murray Music Kum by yah.

E te Atua aroha mai x 3  
Ake, ake tonu ai x 2

E te Atua Awhina mai x 3  
Ake, ake, tonu ai. X 2

E te Atua Manaaki mai x 3  
Ake, ake, tonu ai x 2

**All** gather around the table and stand quietly.

**The Hostess lights** the candle and recites the traditional prayer of Jewish mother:

Blessed art thou, O God of the universe, who has sanctified us by thy commandments and commanded us to kindle the festival lights. Blessed art thou, O God of the universe, who hast kept us alive and sustained us and brought us to this season. May this place be consecrated to God, by the light of thy countenance shining upon us in the blessing and bringing of peace.

This is Holy Week, a time that joins for us the Old Covenant and the New Covenant.

## PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

Holy wisdom of God  
tonight, we recall the meal Jesus shared,  
and as we remember him  
and the community around him,  
we also remember his standing with those who are powerless and without justice.

And so tonight we pray for them –  
those who are detained without trial  
those imprisoned for conscience or for faith

those being tortured  
children kidnapped as child soldiers  
those who have 'disappeared'  
those who are abused and exploited  
those who are refugees  
those whose lives are in turmoil because of natural disasters  
those who lack food and shelter  
those left to die alone.  
As Jesus entered the time of his suffering  
so, we remember those who most closely know this experience.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Welcoming God, you blanket the earth with the invitation  
to dine as your guests at the feast of life.  
You call us to friendship and community  
with the intention of healing our brokenness.  
Yet, we have offered excuses for not joining in.  
We honour correctness more than we value relationship.  
We strain to uphold the bitter walls of class, race, and gender so that we  
might not be shaken by another's pain.

***Forgive us, O God.***

***Renew us that we may be a part of your life.***

***Open our eyes to the new creation  
that awaits our presence.***

***Draw us together in the memory  
of the One who walked into death for the sake of life,  
Jesus our brother and our friend. Amen.***

### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**We are forgiven.**

***We will be forgiving, of ourselves and others.***

Today Christians and Jews celebrate their own feasts in their own ways. But we need to remember that Jesus was a Jew and so we wish to draw upon the traditional Jewish *Seder* and the words of the New Testament to help us more fully appreciate Jesus' observance of his Jewish heritage.

Matthew's, Mark's and Luke's accounts of Jesus sacrifice for us each begin with his celebration of the paschal meal:

## REMEMBERING THE COMMUNITY OF JESUS

They gathered in an upper room to share a meal.

And the names of the apostles were these:

Simon, called Peter,

His brother Andrew.

James

And his brother John – the beloved -

Philip

And Bartholomew.

Thomas

And Matthew the tax collector.

James the son of Alphaeus,

Thaddeus,

Simon the patriot,

And Judas Iscariot.

There were women in the group too:

Mary, called Magdalene,

And Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza,

and Susanna, and many others

who provided for them out of their resources.

For the community around Jesus,

For the gospel light they lit and passed down,

***We give thanks.***

For those who went before us and passed the light onto us,

Especially those we remember now,

***We give thanks.***

(time of silence)

Come Jesus, friend and companion,

take your place as host at this, your table.

## THE PEACE

We meet together to share this meal,

may it express our love for one another

our commitment to each other

and point us beyond ourselves

to the needs of the world.

The peace of God be with you.

***And, with you.***

1. In the singing, in the silence  
in the hands expectant, open  
in the blessing, in the breaking,  
in the Presence at this table

*Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,  
be the wine of grace:  
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,  
be the bread of peace.*

2. In the question, in the answer  
in the moment of acceptance  
in the heart's cry, in the healing  
in the circle of your people

*Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,  
be the wine of grace:  
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,  
be the bread of peace.*

**INVITATION TO THE PASSOVER MEAL:**

St Andrew's is an open community and all are invited to Christ's table. Wherever you are on your faith's journey, wherever you have come from and wherever you are going to, whatever you believe, whatever you do not believe, you are welcome to participate in this Passover meal. This sacred meal is for all people.

## **PRAYER**

We give great thanks for you, community of Jesus  
who sustained him in his life,  
who travelled the path with him,  
who supported him from your resources.

we give great thanks for you  
who reached to him for healing,  
who challenged him with questions,  
who shared your table with him,  
who claimed your place at his.

We give great thanks to you  
who drank in every word  
who told out his good news  
and touched him in his leaving  
and walked with him towards death.  
and so, with thanksgiving and celebration  
we praise you who found the stones of your life  
turned to bread  
the bitter cup of your sorrow turned to wine.  
those whose names have been lost to the wind  
whose stories have been fragmented  
whose voices echo in the voices of the dispossessed today,  
calling us to listen  
we remember you.

Jesus, on this night you took the loaf, made from grain harvested with  
sweat and oppression, beaten and sifted, ground and kneaded, baked  
and given with love – and declared it holy.

On this night, you took the cup, made from the careful harvest of fruit,  
crushed, filtered, fermented and poured with love – and declared it holy.  
As we come again to that sacred night, that sacred meal, we also lift the  
bread, bless it, break it and claim that this bread is broken and this wine  
is poured and given with mystery and mercy.

***You ask us to remember you –  
your body, your humanness, your life.  
We remember.***

## TRADITIONAL PASSOVER PRAYERS

### The Kiddush

**The Leader** *takes the cup of wine* and recites this blessing

Blessed be thou, O God of the universe Creator of the fruit of the vine. Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God of the universe who hast chosen us among all peoples and sanctified us with Thy Commandments. In love hast Thou given us, O God, solemn days of joy and festive seasons of gladness, even this day of the feast of the unleavened bread, a holy convocation unto us, a memorial of the departure from Egypt. Thou hast chosen us for thy service and hast made us sharers in the blessing of Thy holy festivals. Blessed art Thou, O God, Who hast preserved us, sustained us, and brought us to this season.

*All take up their cups*

### THE CUP OF BLESSING

*All drink*

### Eating the Greens

**Leader:** Blessed art Thou O God of the universe, Creator of the fruit of the earth.  
*All present eat of the greens dipped in salt water.*

### Breaking the Matzo

**The Leader** lifts up the matzo (bread) and says:

Lo, this is the bread of affliction which our fathers and mothers ate in the land of Egypt. Let all who are hungry come and eat. Let all who are in want come and celebrate the Passover with us. May it be God's will to redeem us from all trouble and from all servitude. Next year at this season may the whole house Israel be free.



*The Leader replaces the matzo on its plate...* **THE BREAD OF LIFE**

## **HALLEL: PSALMS OF PRAISE**

**Leader:** In the Passover, the first two psalms of the Hallel--the hymns of praise which the Jews recited at the great feasts--are recited.

**All recite Psalm 113** In Praise of God's Goodness

**1** Praise God!

You servants of God,  
praise God's name!

**2** May God's name be praised,  
now and for ever.

**3** From the east to the west  
praise the name of God!

**4** God rules over all nations;  
God's glory is above the heavens.

**5** There is no one like our God.  
God lives in the heights above,

**6** but bends down to see the heavens  
and the earth.

**7** God raises the poor from the dust;  
And lifts the needy from their misery

**8** and makes them companions.

**Praise God!**

## **SHARING THE PASSOVER/LAST SUPPER MEAL TOGETHER**

*The bread of life. The cup of blessing.*

**Come for all is ready, the gifts of God for the people of  
God.**

**AFTER THE MEAL:**

**JESUS' PRAYER   Jim Cotter paraphrase**

***Eternal Spirit***

***Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Love-Maker,  
source of all that is and that shall be,***

***Father and Mother of us all,***

***loving God, in whom is heaven:***

***the hallowing of your name***

***echo through the universe!***

***The way of your justice be followed***

***by the peoples of the world!***

***Your heavenly will be done***

***by all created beings!***

***Your commonwealth of peace and freedom***

***sustain our hope and come on earth.***

***With the bread we need for today, feed us.***

***In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.***

***In times of temptation and test,***

***strengthen us.***

***From trials too great to endure, spare us.***

***From the grip of all that is evil, free us.***

***For you reign in the glory***

***of the power that is love, now and for ever.***

***Amen.***

*Together we say together the Maori Blessing:*

**Kia tau ki a tātou katoa**

**Te Atawhai o tō tātou Ariki, a Ihu Karaiti**

**Me te Aroha o te Atua**

**Me te Whiwhingatahitanga**

**Ki te Wairua Tapu**

**Ake, ake, ake**

**Amine**

(English translation: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all now and forever. Amen)