

14 September 2025 Holy Cross Day

Nau mai, haere mai. Our liturgy begins on page 404 of A New Zealand Prayer Book / He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. The musical setting is Byrd - Mass for 4 voices.

Processional Hymn: Lift high the cross

Refrain: Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim

till all the world adore his glorious name!

Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout! if we are silent, even stones cry out. *Refrain...*

Jesus, you wept to see our human strife, teach us compassion for each human life. *Refrain...*

Peace was your plea and peace your loving theme let peace be our passport, peace a living dream. *Refrain*

Great is the cost of walking on this road, to follow and suffer with the Son of God. *Refrain...*

Worlds to be born and children yet to be come, take up this song into eternity. *Refrain...*George William Kitchin, Shirley Erena Murray. Words © 1974 and 1992; 1974 Hope Publishing Company

Collect:

Almighty God, in the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life; grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer for his sake, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading: Numbers 21:4b-9

Psalm 98:1-5 (ANZPB-HKMoA) -

at 10am the psalm is sung by the choir

- Sing to the Lord a new song: for the Lord has done marvellous things.
- With your own right hand O Lord, and with your holy arm: you have gained for yourself the victory.
- You have made known your victory: you have displayed your saving power to all the nations.
- You have remembered your faithfulness, and your love for the house of Israel: and all the ends of the earth have seen your victory.
- Shout with joy to the Lord all the earth: sing and rejoice with the sound of melody.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-24

Gospel Hymn: Common Praise 126 -

Were you there when they crucified my Lord?

Gospel: John 3:13-17

Offertory Hymn: Common Praise 127 – When I survey the wondrous cross

Lord's Prayer: On page 424 – sung in English

Communion Motet: Crucifixus a 8 - Lotti

Recessional Hymn: Common Praise 108 - Glory be to Jesus

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- Ministry with children is available at the 10am Eucharist during the Sermon and Prayers of the People. This group moves to the back of the Cathedral during the Gospel hymn and returns for the Peace.
- **Prayer ministry** is available at the 10am Eucharist in the Resurrection Chapel during the communion time.
- **Communion is offered in both kinds** (bread and wine) though feel free to receive only the bread.
- **We do not, for health reasons**, dip the bread in the wine. This makes it safer for us all.
- Gluten free wafers are available from the person administering the bread at 10am. If needed at 8am please let us know before the service starts.
- We invite you to stay for morning tea after the service

PRAYER AND WORSHIP THIS COMING WEEK

Today – 5pm Choral Evensong

Introit: Verily, Verily - Tallis
Preces & Responses: Reading / Stone

Psalm: 124

Canticles: Mag & Nunc in G - Ramsey

Anthem: How are the mighty fallen - Ramsey

Hymns:

Common Praise 482 – Jerusalem the golden

Common Praise 502 - Light's abode, celestial Salem

Common Praise 18 – O strength and stay upholding all creation

Tuesday to Friday

9am, Morning prayer in the Resurrection Chapel

Tuesday

10.30am, Eucharist in the Resurrection Chapel, followed by morning tea.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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The text of most sermons preached at the Cathedral are available online: https://napiercathedral.org.nz/worship/sermon-notes/

A thought from today's sermon

The cross of Christ reveals God's eternal character and purpose. This is the way God loves all that is. For here we see the total self-giving of God. Here we witness God's unreserved love for all people. It's a love that enters the world and fully shares in it – even the darkest regions where it seems suffering and pain reign. This is the ultimate expression of the power and wisdom that Paul speaks of, and which our world considers utter foolishness. The love and life of God is to be found where it has no right to be – a life that's even stronger than death – strong enough to embrace death and rob it of its power.