

Year A Lectionary Music

This is a Local Shared Ministry project that has contributions from Ian Render, Natalie Sims and Chris Harris.

Songbook abbreviations:

AA	Alleluia Aotearoa
FFS	Faith Forever Singing
HioS	Hope is Our Song
CoCs	Community of Christ Sings
TIS	Together in Song
SotK	Songs of the Kingdom
SiS	Scripture in Song (4 Volumes)
HFTC	Hymns For Today's Church

CD: "Carol our Christmas" published by New Zealand Hymnbook Trust, 24 carols from Aotearoa. A companion to the book of the same name with 52 carols from Advent to Epiphany.

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Advent 1 (A): “Keep awake”

Music ideas for lighting the Advent Candles:

An eleventh-hour song for the candle-lighting by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette has been added. You could certainly sing this on Advent 4 (omitting the last verse unless at night) or in its entirety on Christmas Day:

The candle of hope [HANOVER], aka “O worship the king, all glorious above...”

Be still and know that I am God a version, simply edited, which can be sung in response to the candle-lighting each week.

Hope is a light: a lovely reflection by Dan Damon. Simple cantor and response tune.

Light a candle bright and tall: good words sung to the well-known tune DIX aka “As with gladness, men of old”. *Lyrics are here*

Awake, awake and greet the new morn Lovely Advent (6/8) carol by Marty Haugen. Printable sheet music *on this page and this additional page*. Easy to learn. Could be sung as an Advent theme on more than one Sunday.

[Come now O Prince of Peace](#) Beautiful, simple and plaintive song from South Korea, really easy to learn. Works well sung between intercessions, but would also suit as a gradual hymn. Sing Glory #586, CoCs #225. *Music and words here*. (Choose “Save image as...”)

Hymns and songs:

[Come O \(thou\) long expected Jesus](#) [CROSS OF JESUS]

[O day of peace that dimly shines](#) [JERUSALEM] Carl Daw’s brilliant text fits the Isaiah reading today and subtly critiques the original poem (“And did those feet...”).

[O Come, O come Emmanuel](#) [VENI EMMANUEL] [Video here](#). A great and ancient hymn for this or another Advent Sunday. You may wish to select verses as 7 is a lot unless you are having a grand procession! I suggest you use a “regularized” version of the tune (e.g. HFTC #66, or [this downloadable score](#)) as this is easier for congregations to sing confidently.

[Come now where we least expect you](#) [MICHAEL] Attractive Advent hymn by Marnie Barrell which can be sung to the tune familiar as “All my hope on God is founded”. “Carol our Christmas” #15

Great God your Spirit like the wind [YE BANKS AND BRAES or JERUSALEM] TiS #416, “Ye banks...” can be found in HFTC #220 or online.

In suffering love the thread of life [LAND OF REST or WILTSHIRE (aka “Through all the changing scenes of life”)] TiS #177. Interesting imagery in this mostly inclusive hymn

Here to the house of God we come [KHAO I DANG] AA #61 *Don't be put off by the tune name! It's really easy to learn. Apt after the recent quakes in NZ. ST. CATHERINE is an appropriate traditional tune. N.B. There are two tunes named St. Catherine, this one is by H.F. Hemy (see HFTC #462(i))*

We wait for you, we long to see you come AA #149 *Great words and music from Shirley and Colin. Click the pdf icon for the music.*

Longing for light (Christ be our light) (Farrell) [Singalong video](#). *"Praying in Song #242, or you can buy the score. All the words are on this page.*

Come and find the quiet centre FFS #10(i)

Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord *Scripture in Song set a portion of today's psalm to a lively tune. Text not inclusive, though. #157*

Advent 2 (A): "The preaching of John the Baptist"

The Gloria is not usually used in Advent. Some of the selections for Advent 1 are also appropriate for today, especially the Advent Candle lighting. An eleventh-hour song for the candle-lighting by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette has been added. You could certainly sing this on Advent 4 (omitting the last verse unless at night) or in its entirety on Christmas Day:

The candle of hope [HANOVER, aka "O worship the king, all glorious above..."]

A child will lead the dawn of grace [MARYTON] *Free to use with acknowledgment (see linked page). Useful addition to the Advent repertoire.*

Hear the message we are now proclaiming *Lively Latin-American song, liberation theology. Linked page has words and melody line with chords*

Come Christmas child (A carol for Advent) *Striking words from Shirley Murray. If you don't have time to learn the new tune you could sing this to "Great is thy faithfulness".*

Hymns and songs:

God is working his purpose out (or, possibly, God has a mission for the earth...) *This hymn is otherwise inclusive in the [Jubilate Hymns version](#) but I'd do some work on v3.*

How lovely on the mountains (Barlotti) *Words and chords*

When Jesus came to Jordan [WOLVERCOTE or THORNBURY or (if you're desperate) AURELIA aka "The Church's one foundation"] *A traditional-style hymn from Fred Pratt Green*

Look towards Christmas, Advent is here [CAMPANE] CoC #30(i) *Lively, lovely carol from Shirley Murray and Jillian Bray. Words linked, for the music you will need a copy of "Carol our Christmas" from the NZ Hymnbook Trust, which is a most useful book all round. If you could transpose it down a tone it would be rather easier on lower voices!*

Come now, Lord Jesus (Carol for Advent) [LALA MNTWANA] CoC #14(ii) and AA #23(ii). *A charming traditional Zulu tune, easy.*

Star-child, earth child *Shirley Murray's popular carol text with a lovely tune by Carlton R. Young. Music pdf link is on the lyrics page. Also CoC #40 (ii) and CoCs #420*

Blessed be the God of Israel [KINGSFOLD] *Paraphrase of the Song of Zechariah by Carl Daw.*

Isaiah the prophet has written of old [SAMANTHRA] *Not easy to find, this is a superb hymn about the Peaceable Reign. SAMANTHRA is a very beautiful early American tune, not hard to learn. Chords are easy in Em. This example version of the melody is a setting of the words "His voice as the sound of the dulcimer sweet". Here's a lovely take by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir.*

O Day of Peace [JERUSALEM or YE BANKS AND BRAES] *see Advent 1*

Who would think that what was needed [SCARLET RIBBONS] *Lovely simple carol from Iona which can be used anytime in Advent or Christmas*

The bright wind is blowing TiS #263 *A modern hymn, easy to learn, which references the preaching of John. Linked music and text (scroll down) provide a passable printout.*

Comfort, comfort all my people [DOROTHY] TiS #647 *Lovely song of consolation from Robin Mann, you'll need "Together in Song" (HarperCollins), or it is also found in "Let's Sing It Again" for purchase on Robin's site.*

Down by the Jordan [LOBE DEN HERRN aka "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty..."] *Carolyn graciously gives permission to use her hymns if you contact her by email.*

An ancient story told [LEONI] *Inclusive words, and music for another useful addition to the Advent repertoire "at this birth death lost its grip, a holy hour".*

When our God shall come to reign [TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM] aka "Good King Wenceslas"

When our God shall come to reign,
mighty power revealing,
splendour shall be seen again,
life and joy and healing:
earth no longer in decay,
hope no more frustrated;
this is God's redemption day
longingly awaited.

In the desert trees take root
like a new creation,
plants and flowers and sweetest fruit
join the celebration:
rivers spring up from the earth,
barren lands adorning;
valleys this is your re-birth,
mountains, greet the morning.

Strengthen feeble hands and knees,
fainting hearts be cheerful!
God who comes for such as these
seeks and saves the fearful:
now the deaf can hear the dumb
sing away their weeping;
blind eyes see the injured come
walking, running, leaping.

There God's highway shall be seen
where no roaring lion,
nothing evil or unclean
walks the road to Zion:

ransomed people homeward bound
all your praises voicing,
see your God with glory crowned,
share in our rejoicing!

(Christopher Idle, adapted.)

Tune: TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM aka "Good King Wenceslas"

The peace of the earth be with you *Lovely, simple blessing from Guatemala, published in "There is one among us" (Iona/Wild Goose). Linked page: click the small music icon – there are printable (.jpg) pages of the score.*

Advent 3 (A): “Gaudete /Rejoicing Sunday”

Some congregations use a pink candle (and sometimes vestments) in their Advent wreath on this day as a change in mood from the penitential. Some of last week’s selections are apt for today’s readings (especially from Isaiah) as well. Featured items this week focus on Mary & The Magnificat.

A version of [“Mary did you know?” by Voctave](#) which might well have the congregation weeping into their bulletin. The lyrics are [here](#).

Holy is your name (My soul is filled with joy) *Lovely paraphrase of the Magnificat by David Haas, set to the tune WILD MOUNTAIN THYME. I’ve tracked down the [words](#) and [music on this page](#) and [the next one](#) (click for p. 1021 at top right)*

Canticle of the turning (My soul cries out) *Very popular Magnificat set to the lively Irish folk tune STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN (CoCs #404). [Natalie Sims](#) says it’s her favourite Magnificat and I’m inclined to agree! The congregation could sing along to [this quality performance](#). I’ve tracked down [this words and music on this page](#) and [the next one](#) (click for p. 79 at top right). There are melody line versions available there too. Super easy chords in Em.*

Magnificat now (Christmas comes close) *Perhaps one of Shirley Murray’s finest recent texts, unflinching in style as always. Attractive and simple tune by Jim Strathdee. Words on [this page](#).*

Other hymns and songs for today:

For ages women hoped and prayed [[NOEL](#) (the English tune used with “It came upon the midnight clear”) also known as GERARD or EARDISLEY] . Words by Jane Parker Huber

The angel Gabriel from heaven came [[GABRIEL’S MESSAGE](#)] . [Modernized words](#) from *Jubilate Hymns*.

We wait for you, we long to see you come [[EXPECTATION](#)] AA #149 A good offertory hymn for today.

All who would see God’s greatness [[OBEISANCE](#) or [ASHBURTON](#)] CoC #4 Also on the CD of “Carol our Christmas” as is:

You are born in us again [[DUNSTAN](#)] A lovely song for a summer Advent. CoC #52

Child of joy and peace A challenging carol from Shirley Murray, with my tune [JENNIFER’S GIFT](#) or the late Douglas Mews’ [UTRECHT](#). CoC #9

Star-child, earth-Child [Tune by Carlton R. Young] CoC # 40(ii) and CoCs #420 [Popular text](#) from Shirley Murray.

Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord [WOODLANDS] Words and music, if you scroll down.

Lord you were rich beyond all splendour [BERGERS aka “Whence is that goodly fragrance”]: unfortunately neglected Advent/Christmas hymn HTFC #63. Sing Glory #356. Words. (You could begin “Riches were yours beyond all splendour, yet for love’s sake you came so poor”)

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us [LIVING LORD] *Could be suitable for Holy Communion today.* HTFC #417, Sing Glory #670 TiS #526.

You shall go out with joy Scripture in Song #197 or #397 depending on which edition you have.

Advent 4 (A): “Emmanuel prophesied”

Material from last week’s selection is apt for today and is not repeated here.

Malcolm *“Beneath the Southern Cross”* Gordon has written a winsome and delightful children’s song of the Annunciation with his son Sam.

[Hey Mary!](#)

O come, O come Emmanuel *Enya has a very atmospheric version [in this video](#), which could set the scene for your service. [The video](#) by BYU Vocal Point is simply outstanding, blending traditional with contemporary.*

No wind at the window COLUMCILLE TIS #287 *A lovely Irish traditional tune and another [clever, pointed lyric](#) from John Bell. Nice folksy performance in [this YouTube clip](#). [Here’s the sheet music](#) and an audio demo. If you want to use this text but don’t have time to learn the tune you could (maybe) sing this to CRADLE SONG aka “Away in a manger”, or STOWEY aka “How far is it to Bethlehem” but the American tune [MUELLER](#) for “Away in a manger” would be very easy to sing. Note: The last lines of v1 don’t really scan when sung to an alternative tune. It would be easier to sing, e.g. “An angel, a woman, a voice in her ear.”*

From heaven you came (The Servant King) SG #632

[Angels from the realms of glory.](#) Check out [this mind-boggling 1000-voice rendition!](#)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel *This 70s worship song would make a very appropriate Gospel acclamation, sung, say, before (or after) the sermon. “Songs of the Kingdom” #33*

Joseph, son of an ancient king *Lovely atmospheric song, very easy to learn, can be used after Christmas day too. [Words here](#). Click on the page’s pdf logo for the sheet music. CoCs #443*

Like a child (Jesus comes) *Another [lovely, simple carol](#) from Dan Damon. CoCs #403 Click on the page’s pdf logo for the sheet music.*

Peace Child CoC #35 *Words for peace from Shirley Murray, lovely tune from Colin Gibson.*

For Communion: In the singing, in the silence [BREAD OF PEACE] FFS #38, CoCs #519. *Click on the page’s pdf logo for the sheet music.*

[Now to your table spread](#) [LOVE UNKNOWN] AA #100: *two texts by Shirley Murray*

What kind of throne? *The lyrics of [this worship song](#) seem appropriate to the Annunciation. All the resources needed to learn and sing this song are available to download for a small fee. Good if you want to include something more contemporary today (or at Christmas).*

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day (A): The feast of the Incarnation (Christmas)

Knock yourself out with hundreds of public domain carol texts at ["The Hymns and Carols of Christmas"](#) Or just choose from our tried and tested selections below! There are: Carols for Christmas at night, Carols for Christmas morning, Carols and songs with children and young people, and Carols for a southern hemisphere Christmas. You can sing some of these on the Sunday after Christmas too.

The NZ Hymnbook Trust publication "Carol Our Christmas" is abbreviated CoC below, not to be confused with "CoCs": "Community of Christ Sings"

At night (traditional selections first):

Once in royal David's city [IRBY] (or if you're in a provocative mood, [Once in Judah's least-known city](#))

O little town of Bethlehem FOREST GREEN or ST LOUIS (American tune)

It came upon the midnight clear [CAROL or NOEL] HFTC #87, or [here](#). Really good revision of the words with much better theology than the original. Jubilate Group.

Silent night [STILLE NACHT] Good choice for the Gradual, as is the following

Infant holy, infant lowly [INFANT HOLY]

O come all ye faithful [ADESTE FIDELIS] One carol where the traditional language still (mostly) works, although I'd leave out the verse about "abhorring not the virgin's womb" which is very anti-incarnational and anti-female. It is best to select some verses for this carol. Remember to sing "born for our salvation" or "born this happy morning" as appropriate! One of the best opening carols.

Come and sing the Christmas story [AR HYD Y NOS] HFTC #81 [Words from Jubilate](#)

Angels from the realms of glory [IRIS] The [Jubilate version of the words](#) is good HFTC #77

Hark the herald angels sing [MENDELSSOHN] (also for the morning service, probably the best carol for the recessional)

The wind blew keen (Carol of cold comfort) CoC #44 Lovely modern carol from Colin Gibson

Peace child CoC #35 Unsentimental and focused on the hope for peace

Come now, Lord Jesus [LALA MNTWANA CoC #14(ii)] Suitable for a short processional hymn, easy Zulu tune

Child of Christmas story [INCARNATION] CoC #8 Easy to learn, attractive Gradual hymn

Magnificat now (Christmas comes close) *Perhaps one of Shirley Murray's finest recent texts, unflinching in style as always. Attractive and simple tune by Jim Strathdee. Words on [this page](#). (Could be used in the daytime as well).*

Like a candle flame (The Candle Song) *Lovely song from Graham Kendrick. There is a full-length YouTube clip (just the music and choir) [on Graham's site](#). Click the [sheet music link](#) for a pdf. You could listen to this during communion, but it's not hard to learn. Here's a lovely [singalong video](#). SG #370*

On Christmas Day:

Some of the carols from Christmas Eve are, of course, appropriate in the morning too.

Star-child, earth-child CoC #40 and CoCs #420 *The tune by Carlton R. Young is the better known and on the CD. Words are [on this page](#), scroll down and click the pdf symbol for this tune*

All who would see God's greatness CoC #4 *Marnie Barrell's wonderful words have two tunes, OBEISANCE is the one on the CoC CD. Suitable also at night*

Holy child, how still you lie HOLY CHILD HFTC #60(ii) *This lovely, challenging modern carol deserves to be so much better known. [Text from Jubilate](#) and is free to listen to on [Spotify](#)*

Lord you were rich beyond all splendour [BERGERS aka "Whence is that goodly fragrance"] HFTC #63 or [from Jubilate](#). *French traditional carol: unfortunately neglected Advent/Christmas hymn HTFC #63. Sing Glory #356. [Words](#). (You could begin "Riches were yours beyond all splendour, yet for love's sake you came so poor")*

Jesus Christ the Lord is born [PUER NOBIS] HFTC #83 or from [Jubilate](#) (also the sheet music)

Good Christians, all rejoice [IN DULCI JUBILO] HFTC #85 or **Good Christian friends, rejoice** CoCs #433

Like a child *Lovely, simple carol affirming children by Dan Damon [words](#)*

Glad music fills the Christmas sky O WALY WALY HFTC 82 or words at [Jubilate](#). *Note that this is but one of the variants of this tune, so you'll need to pay attention to the recorded melody.*

Especially with children and young people:

The stars danced CoC #43

Away in a manger [CRADLE SONG]

See him lying on a bed of straw CALYPSO CAROL [You'll need the revised version of the words from Jubilate](#)

And the following contemporary (and very popular) songs from [Resound Worship's Christmas collection](#). Scroll down the list for all the different resource options available.

In the beginning *Fab, lively song based on John 1, perfect for Christmas morning*

On Christmas Day *Who doesn't love this soaring, anthemic confession of faith?*

What kind of throne? *Country-style worship song with great lyrics reminiscent of medieval carols*

Ring out the bells *Fun song for all ages, needs a good song leader or soloist for the verses*

Southern hemisphere Christmas (published in "Carol Our Christmas"):

Carol our Christmas CoC #7 *Daytime*

All over creation CoC #3 *Delightful words and music. Night-time*

Awake before sunrise CoC #6 *Bill Bennett's NZ shepherds setting. Daytime*

Te Harinui (Not on a snowy night) CoC #31 *Frankly this is a bit patronising but still popular*

Christmas in the picture book CoC #11 *A carol of contrasts!*

You are born in us again CoC #52 *Simply delightful song that can be sung now to Epiphany*

I'd like to acknowledge the amazing contribution Shirley Murray (and those who write tunes for her) have made to our Upside-Down Christmas

Note that The Jubilate Group [free membership](#) only requires the information in **bold type.*

2nd Sunday of Christmas OR The naming of Jesus

It's still Christmas! So why not sing a carol or two that you haven't used yet. Carols about the shepherds' visit are apt. The Gospel reading for Christmas 2 is the more sombre "Flight into Egypt" & "Slaughter of the Innocents". See below (Christmas) for a selection of carols during the day and also Carols for a NZ Christmas.

A voice was heard in Ramah [PASSION CHORALE aka "O Sacred head now wounded"] A most appropriate hymn from Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.

In Bethlehem a baby boy [PUER NOBIS NASCITUR or O WALY WALY or (at a push) ROCKINGHAM Very apt hymn by Rosamund Herklots about the slaughter of the innocents. *Words.* (You could use a different LM (88.88) tune, but it needs to be a good match to the tone of the words.)

Like a child *Lovely, simple carol affirming children by Dan Damon words and music*

If you haven't much time to do selecting for today, here is a sample order:

Carol our Christmas [REVERSI] CoC #7, AA #9 . Recorded on the CD of the same name.

A mother lined a basket [ELLACOMBE] Words that relate to both Hannah and Mary, very apt, are *here*.

Lord who left the highest heaven [IRBY aka "Once in Royal..."] *Good words from Timothy Dudley-Smith. A bit long, I would omit v4. You could sing "Christ" as an alternative to "Lord" if you prefer.*

Jesus, good above all other [QUEM PASTORES LAUDAVERE] HFTC #95 provides modern words, *traditional text is here*, easy to modernize. You could sing this post-Communion, along with **Joseph, son of an ancient king** if you have learned it – music via the pdf link. An excellent Australian song is **Lift this child** found in "As One Voice 2-125" with accompaniment and lyrics *here*.

You could be tempted to think that this would be the very worst day to learn something new, but "Who sweeps the stable" (Murray/Gibson) is a delightful song about discipleship, with a very singable tune. Would suit a soloist or small group to lead a couple of verses, with the congregation joining in later. HioS [Hope Is Our Song] #154(i). Colin's tune has easy guitar chords. There is an echo here of Mary's "Yes" to God.

*Finish with one of the lively songs from ResoundWorship, such as **Ring out the bells** or the well known **CALYPSO CAROL (See him lying in a bed of straw)** Link is to a YouTube clip with lyrics.*

*Another lively song from NZ anticipates New Year: **Come in, come in, New Year** CoC #13. My tune is the one on the "Carol our Christmas" CD*

And here are a few more suggestions:

Jesus, name above all names (Songs of the Kingdom #21)

Emmanuel (Songs of the Kingdom #33)

Come Christmas child (A carol for Advent) *Striking words from Shirley Murray. If you don't have time to learn the new tune you could sing this to "Great is thy faithfulness".*

Jesus entered Egypt [AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE] *Short, challenging hymn by Adam Tice, suitable for the Gradual.*

Fairest Lord Jesus [ST ELISABETH] (TiS #203) *And in this inclusive language version.*

Fairest Lord Jesus, ruler of all nature,
Image of God to earth come down:
you will I cherish, you will I honour,
as my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands,
clad in the blooming robe of spring;
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer,
who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight,
and fair the twinkling, starry host;
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer
than all the angels heaven can boast.

All fairest beauty heavenly and earthly,
wondrously, Jesus, in you I see;
none can be nearer, fairer or dearer
than you, my Saviour, are to me.

Based on the "Voices United" inclusive language translation.

The Baptism of Jesus

Down by the Jordan [straightforward words](#) by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette that can be sung (with vigour!) to LOBE DEN HERRN aka “Praise to the Lord, the almighty, the king of creation”.

Songs and hymns for the OT reading:

I have called you by your name (Dan Damon) CoCs #636, or [here](#), with pdf link to the music below the lyrics

Will you come and follow me (The Summons) [YouTube video](#), amongst other versions. CoCs #586 Tune: KELVINGROVE

I will sing the wondrous story HYFRYDOL TiS #233, HFTC #212

Loving Spirit AA #94 *I prefer the Dell tune, others may like FELICITY, which is also the tune in TIS*

How firm a foundation, you people of God ST DENIO CoCs #250 (old words) #TiS 578 & HFTC 430 ([Better words](#))

Songs and hymns for the Acts reading:

Breathe on me breath of God Personally I think the meditative TRENTHAM is a much more fitting tune than the somewhat bouncy CARLISLE

Spirit of the living God s. #23 & 24 in HFTC

Wairua Tapu / Holy Spirit you are welcome Simple Maori words for the chorus “Holy Spirit Thou Art Welcome” You could sing this as a Gradual Hymn. Lyrics and alternative English lyrics:

Wairua Tapu, Wairua Tapu, tomo mai,
(*Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit enter*)
Wairua Tapu, Wairua Tapu, tomo mai
Ko koe ra e Ihowa te mana nui
(Yahweh you have all authority)
Wairua Tapu, Wairua Tapu, tomo mai.

Holy Spirit, you are welcome in this place (x)
Revealing the power of mercy and grace,
you are welcome in this place.

Spirit, spirit of gentleness Jim Manley’s classic song: words [here](#)

Come down, O Love divine [DOWN AMPNEY]

Join hands in the Spirit AA #82

Songs and hymns for the Gospel reading:

Christ on whom the Spirit rested David Mowbray's hymn works for all the readings today! Sung to the vigorous tune MICHAEL aka "All my hope on God is founded". HFTC #228. Words also [on this page](#), but you may need a *free* account to access them.

Wild and lone the prophet's voice [Excellent and challenging words](#) from Carl Daw. Half verses can be sung to HEINLEIN aka "40 days and 40 nights", making a total of 6 verses.

Down by the Jordan (See above for the featured lyric this week)

When Jesus came to Jordan Fred Pratt Green's hymn. This would make a good post-communion reflection especially if sung to PASSION CHORALE aka "O Sacred Head". You could choose a different 76.76D tune.

Epiphany

Wise men of old came seeking, searching [BERGERS] *Lovely French carol tune, contemporary words.*

The wise may bring their learning [NOEL aka "It came upon the midnight clear"] *Author unknown, so copyright-free.*

Sing of God made manifest [ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR, or ABERYSTWYTH] *A hymn by Carl P. Daw, Jr, which can be used on any Sunday in Epiphany*

[The Little Drummer Boy: \[Pentatonix version\]](#)

Come all poor and humble (O deued pob criston) [POVERTY CAROL]

Come all poor and humble,
all people who stumble
make haste now, and be unafraid.
For Jesus our treasure,
With love past all measure,
In lowly poor manger was laid.

Though Magi who found him
Laid rich gifts around him,
Yet oxen they gave him their hay;
And Jesus in beauty
Accepted their duty;
Contented in manger he lay.

Then haste we to show him
The praises we owe him;
Our service he ne'er can despise:
Whose love still is able
To show us that stable
Where softly in manger he lies.

Based on the Welsh carol "O Deued Pob Cristion"

Angels from the realms of glory [IRIS (aka GLORIA) or REGENT SQUARE]

As with gladness men of old [DIX] *Good version of the words*

Let all mortal flesh keep silence [PICARDY]

(O) Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness [WAS LEBET]

Shepherds came, their praises bringing (HFTC #74) [QUEM PASTORES LAUDAVERE] *Suitable for a Gradual or Gospel Acclamation OR to the same tune:*

Light of gladness, Lord of glory [QUEM PASTORES LAUDAVERE] *(but for morning worship you will need to change v2 to “Let us sing at sun’s ascending as we see the light of morning”*

I am the light of the world (care is needed with the version chosen for inclusive language): *“To be at one with people everywhere” instead of “To call a man your brother everywhere”, & “To make music in the hearts of the old”...*

What child is this? [GREENSLEEVES] *A useful version by Michael Perry.*

You are the king of glory (Songs of the Kingdom #118)

The Light of the World A new song from Stuart Townend. Celebratory Irish folk style. This would make superb exit music, especially the bouncy instrumental at the end!

From Aotearoa:

You could be tempted to think that this would be the very worst day to learn something new, but “Who sweeps the stable” (Murray/Gibson) is a delightful song about discipleship, with a very singable tune. Would suit a soloist or small group to lead a couple of verses, with the congregation joining in later. HioS [Hope Is Our Song] #154(i). Colin’s tune has easy guitar chords. There is an echo here of Mary’s “Yes” to God.

Who are these who ride by starlight (CoC #49) *This Marnie Barrell carol could be sung to a well-known tune, as it is 87.87D. My suggestion is EBENEZER, but you could use SCARLET RIBBONS or ABBOT’S LEIGH*

Wise men came journeying Text by Shirley Murray, with a very evocative tune by Colin Gibson

You are born in us again (CoC #52) *Also on the CD*

Epiphany 2 (A): "The Lamb of God"

Some of the material from last week is also appropriate general Epiphany hymnody

Featured:

The Word of God fleshed out *Groovy little song for Epiphany, would be easy to pick up from this singalong video from Worldmaking.net*

Let me be your light *This lovely little song by Christopher Grundy would make an attractive Introit to listen to. Worth the process of getting the free sheet music, too.*

O God you search me and you know me *Bernadette Farrell's popular song. Words here. Sample sheet music, available for purchase from OCP.*

I waited patiently for God [86.86 metre, such as WILTSHIRE or ST. COLUMBA] *Iona Community. Would make a good Gradual choice.*

All my hope on God is founded [MICHAEL] *Inclusive language version of the text*

All my hope on God is founded
who will all my trust renew,
through all change and chance will guide me,
only good and only true.
God unknown,
God alone,
call my heart to be your own.

Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray our trust;
what with care and toil we fashion,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.

God's great goodness lasts forever,
depths of wisdom, passing thought;
splendour, light, and life attending,
beauty springing out of naught.
Evermore
from this store
new-born worlds rise and adore.

Still from earth to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising

for the gift of God's own Son.
Christ yet calls
one and all:
those who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges, adapted (after Joachim Neander)

God whose giving knows no ending [BLAENWERN] *You could change “kindred” to “neighbour” or similar.*

Lord of the dance (I danced in the morning) *The Sydney Carter classic. Full resources on the linked page if you register.*

Will you come and follow me (The Summons) *Linked page is to a 4-verse version with accompaniment, you need to click p380 for the rest of it.*

Sent by the Lord am I (Sent out in Jesus' name) *Lively Latin-American short song, very easy to learn. There's an [inclusive language version of the words here](#). Note that the first 4 lines are repeated.*

There is a redeemer *Melody Green's worship song.*

Who sweeps the stable? *(Murray/Gibson) is a delightful song about discipleship, with a very singable tune. Would suit a soloist or small group to lead a couple of verses, with the congregation joining in later. HioS [Hope Is Our Song] #154(i). Colin's tune has easy guitar chords.*

All heaven declares *Worship song, very suitable to conclude Communion. Singalong video, but unlike “Sing Glory” #420, not inclusive language (“man” to “us”):*

From heaven you came [SERVANT KING] *Graham Kendrick's song. TiS #256, SG#632. [Accompaniment track](#) with intro (very good quality) and words.*

Christ let us come with you [WROSLYN ROAD] AA #17. *Good for the Offertory today. [Sheet music](#). Words [on this page](#).*

You servants of God, your Saviour proclaim [HANOVER or LAUDATE DOMINUM] *At [this link](#) you can tick “Classifications” to remove archaic language and non-inclusive language, but note that the first word should be “You”, not “Your”.*

Kneels at the feet of his friends (Yesu, Yesu) [CHEREPONI] *Link is to the sheet music. For the words, select [full text](#).*

The Lord is my light (Taize) TiS #747

God of grace and God of glory [CWM RHONDDA] *Good words fortunately available in a [more modern version](#). Although I would also change Lo! (Who says “Lo!”? for heaven’s sake?) to “See”.*

Christ is the world’s true light [NUN DANKET] *Hard to find modern text is in a [pdf here](#). But I would certainly change “Where’er we own his sway” to “By all who choose the Way”, “thee’ to “you” and “travailed” to “laboured”. HTFC #323 is a good version, too.*

It’s also a good day to choose an [Agnus Dei](#) (Lamb of God) that your congregation knows. Otherwise you could play one such as the beautiful Barber “Adagio”, which could be background music for the administration of communion:

Epiphany 3 (A): "Follow me"

Consider other Epiphany seasonal hymns and songs such as "Will you come and follow me" from last week. If you want more traditional selections, try [Jeff Shrowder's](#) site – scroll down.

Featured:

I will come to you in the silence (You are mine) A beautiful contemporary hymn by David Haas (similar in style to "Here I am Lord"). [Words](#). [Melody with chords](#). [Keyboard accompaniment](#). (Click the next two page numbers for the rest). [Singalong video](#), easy to follow.

You walk along our shoreline Very apt hymn by the late Sylvia Dunstan, can be sung to WOLVERCOTE or MORNING LIGHT (aka Stand up, stand up for Jesus). [Words here](#).

Summoned by the God who made us [[NETTLETON](#) or other 87.87D tune] *Nettleton is a lively, easy tune to learn and very useful in the repertoire. This instance is a hymn by Dolores Dufner. 1 hymnal omits the verse about "male and female", but you could sing "Human beings in God's image, all creation God's delight."* CoCs #330.

Another good hymn for today which uses the same tune or other 87.87D is **Praise the one who breaks the darkness** by Rusty Edwards.

Other hymns and songs for today:

Safe in your hands O God [ST CLEMENT aka "The day thou gavest"] *Inclusive language version of a hymn "Safe in the hands of God [SG #653]" by Michael Perry*

Dear God embracing humankind [REPTON] *The well-known "Dear Lord and father of mankind" in an inclusive version. Choose the "full text" tab for the words.*

Help us accept each other [AURELIA or WOLVERCOTE] *Hymn by Fred Kaan, relevant to the Epistle.*

Gather us in (Here in this place) *Marty Haugen's lively gathering song. [Performance with lyrics](#). TiS #474, CoCs #72, SG #4*

We are many, we are one [HAMILTON] *FFS #67. Colin Gibson's lively song of unity. A good choice for the Recessional. Link provides words and music (without the intro) and permission is granted for use (with acknowledgement) in worship.*

Christ let us come with you *Suitable for Communion today. Link is to the keyboard score, click the "full text" tab for lyrics. Also in AA #17*

I have decided to follow Jesus *This Indian song works best not as a bouncy ditty, but as a slow-rock meditation, which would be suitable as a response to Communion, or in the Gradual slot. Here is my lead sheet (words and chords) for a jazz-type arrangement.*

I have decided to follow Jesus (Indian Traditional)
Slow rock style with jazz chords arranged by Ian Render

F/G C G/B F⁹/A G⁷⁹ F^{maj7} C/E Dm⁷
 I have de ci ded to fol- low Je - sus

C/E F C/E F/D C⁹/E Dm⁷/F F⁹/G₇
 I have de ci ded to fol- low Je - sus

F/G Em⁷/G C⁹ G⁹/B C/A G⁶⁹
 I have de ci ded to fol- low

Am⁹ C^{maj7}/G₆ F^{maj7}
 Je - sus -----

Em^{7,11} Dm⁷⁹ Dm⁷⁹/G G⁷⁹ F⁹ C
 No turn -ing back , No turn -ing back.

The world behind me, the cross before me....
 No turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow....
 No turning back, no turning back.

Note on arrangement: G₆ & G₇ means play that interval in the left hand

Holy presence, holy teacher [BEACH SPRING] or other 87.87D tune] *Hymn about learning and growing in faith by Shirley Murray*

We are one in the bond of love Scripture in Song “Songs of Praise” #134 Schmaltzy demo. **We are one in the Spirit** (They’ll know we are Christians) *Care should be taken to use inclusive lyrics as in this contemporary singalong version. Words and chords, non-inclusive version.*

I the Lord of sea and sky (Here I am Lord) CoCs #640, TiS #658, SG #633. Lyrics in full. *Attractive folk version just with guitar – images, no lyrics, but you could certainly sing along with it:*

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (A): Candlemas

Welcome Jesus, you are welcome [SWEETWATER] *A beautiful, reflective hymn by Daniel Charles Damon. The tune is very easy to pick up, down [this page](#) for the words. You could use a known 87.87 tune, but the effect won't be the same.*

Like a child [LIKE A CHILD] *Another of Dan's lovely hymns, suitable as a Gradual, or during Communion, perhaps. keyboard score and chords [on this page](#), click the full-text link for the words.*

Other hymns and songs for Candlemas:

Lord now let your servant go his way in peace [NORTH COATES] *The Nunc Dimittis set to a familiar tune (cf. "O My Saviour Lifted") HFTC #611. Perfect Gradual hymn.*

Lord bid your servant go in peace *A slightly longer Nunc Dimittis. TiS #324. You could use many 86.86 tunes such as ST ANNE (aka "O God our help"). Words are on [this YouTube page](#), click on SHOW MORE.*

This is a day of new beginnings [BEGINNINGS] *A fine hymn by Brian Wren and Carlton R. Young, easy to learn. Good communion hymn when you use the alternate last verse: "In faith we'll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do..." CoCs #495, TiS #653, words [on this page](#), click the pdf link for the music.*

Child in the manger, infant of Mary [BUNESSAN, aka "Morning Has Broken"]. *TiS #319, HFTC #51, or words and music [on this page](#).*

Lord, you were rich beyond all splendour *Moving and lovely carol with a french traditional tune, BERGERS (aka QUELLE EST CETTE ODEUR). HFTC # 63 and [words on this page](#). Music (but with different words) is [here](#).*

Born in the night, Mary's child *TiS #323 Poignant 60s carol suitable for the Gospel reading. Keyboard score [on this page](#), click the Full Text tab for the words.*

Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us [LIVING LORD] *HFTC #417, TiS #526*
Slide [presentation of the words](#).

Star-child, earth child *CoC #40(ii) also found on the CD. Keyboard score [on this page](#), click the Full Text link for the words.*

Praise to God, whose Holy Spirit *CoC #36, suggest you sing this Marnie Barrell (NZ) hymn to ABBOT'S LEIGH. This would make a suitable offertory hymn. [Words on this page](#).*

All who would see God's greatness [OBEISANCE or ASHBURTON] *Another of Marnie's fine texts. Words and other details [on this page](#). (Thanks to Jillian Bray for the lovely alternative arrangement for my tune). CoC #4, two tunes.*

Peace Child *CoC #35 also on the CD. Words [on this page](#). Click the pdf link for two different tunes. Dan Damon has written an attractive jazz-waltz style tune.*

Where the road runs out AA #156. Words also on [this page](#).

Jesus, name above all names *Songs of the Kingdom* #21.

Faith has set us on a journey FFS #14. A hymn by Shirley Murray which can also be sung to an 87.87D tune. Words [on this page](#).

Come join in Mary's prophet song [FLIGHT OF THE EARLS or other 86.86D] *Only available in "Community of Christ Sings" (COCs) #308*

Go now in peace (A simple round) *TiS* #782

God speed you on your way [STAFFORD] *An attractive and easy song to conclude the service, [Words](#) by Shirley Murray and music by Shona Murray. FFS #29*

5th in Ordinary Time (A): Waitangi Day (February 6)

Some ideas for celebrating Te Tiriti o Waitangi:

God of nations, at thy feet *First verse sung in Maori and English as in AA #51, or up to 4 verses in With One Voice #677*

Tama ngakau marie AA #128, With One Voice #633 *With translation*

These hills where the hawk flies lonely FFS #63 Or [words and music on this page](#), with permission to use with acknowledgment. Could be an opening hymn.

Ma te marie a te Atua *Simple blessing in Te Reo. [Words on this page](#), scroll down to p.177 #7, or p.177 in A New Zealand Prayer Book / He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa. Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH (aka "Praise God from whom all blessings flow") Also in "With One Voice" #679, including translation*

E te Ariki, whakarongo mai *Lovely song of invocation from Wi-Patena Te Pairi, very easy to learn, simple guitar chords. HiOS #23*

Blow through the valleys *Lively song of justice and partnership from Bill Bennett, FFS #6*

E te Ariki (Lord, have mercy) *Simple setting of the Kyries in Te Reo, call and response style. FFS #13*

We are many, we are one *Colin Gibson's lively song of unity and inclusion FFS #67, or on [this page](#) with permission to use with acknowledgment. Good closing song.*

The bread is blessed *Something which may be new to your congregation, which could be used for the Offertory today. Lovely words and jazz chords from Colin Gibson, with a chant-style refrain. Easy. HiOS #131*

This is my song, O God of all the nations [FINLANDIA] *A grand tune for a hymn acknowledging everyone's love of their own homeland. The [text on this page](#) can easily be modernized to suit, and you could choose to sing "vine" instead of "pine", for example. Good closing hymn.*

There are also a number of short "Alleluias" for Aotearoa. Mine is AA #131, the others are listed in the Index

Songs and hymns for the theme of "Salt and Light":

Gather us in (Here in this place) *Example [performance with words](#). [Lyrics and chords](#). TiS #474, CoCs #72, SG #4*

Christ be our light (Longing for light)

Look around you (Kyrie Eleison) *I can only find the music in "Praying in Song" but I think it is in "Servant Songs (a NZ resource)" too. [Conference recording led by Josh Jones](#).*

You are salt for the earth O people (Bring forth the Kingdom) I only have this one in "As One Voice" Volume 2 #4. This video could be sung along with if you have the [words](#).

The kingdom of God is justice and joy [HANOVER] Words with the tune LAUDATE DOMINUM

As a fire is meant for burning Pertinent hymn from Ruth Duck. The suggested tune is BEACH SPRING but SCARLET RIBBONS or other reflective 87.87D tune would work.

Let me turn your light on Fun kids song from Colin Gibson, super easy. HiOS #86

I want to walk as a child of the light [Words are on this page](#). TiS #643

We are marching (walking) in the light of God [SIYAHAMBA] TiS #666, CoCs #95. [Music and words on this page](#). Click the next page number for the rest. Additional verses can be: "We are living in the love of God", "We are moving in the power of God"

I the Lord of sea and sky (Here I am Lord) CoCs #640, TiS #658, SG #633. [This singalong video](#) is in the contemporary worship style. Watch out for the bridge which is not part of the original song. [This video version](#) is in a folk style (no lyrics)

I have called you by your name CoCs #636 [Words are on this page](#), click the pdf symbol which is a link to the music. Lovely song from Dan Damon, [easy to learn, and popular](#).

From this holy time, from this sacred space Marnie Barrell's excellent words are perfectly suited to the closing (recessional) hymn, and easily sung to LAUDATE DOMINUM. HiOS #31

6th in Ordinary Time (A): "Choose life!"

Speak O Lord *Soaring contemporary worship song about hearing God's word, well worth adding to your repertoire. Lots of sample resources [on this page](#) if you click about. [Singalong video](#). CoCs #66*

Praise to the living God *Inclusive language version of an [ancient Jewish hymn](#) sung to a synagogue melody LEONI which is easy to learn if your congregation doesn't know it. TiS #102 (but this version has masculine God language). CoCs (#8) has a different hymn by a similar name but sung to DIADEMATA ("aka Crown him with many crowns")*

Praise to our living God,
all praise be to the name
that was, and is, and is to be,
and still the same:
the one eternal God
before what now appears,
the First, the Last, beyond all thought,
of timeless years.

Formless all lovely forms
declare God's loveliness;
holy, no holiness of earth
could e'er express.
Behold the source of all:
creation sings in praise,
and everywhere, above, below
God's will obeys.

The Spirit freely flows,
high surging where it will:
in prophet's words declared of old
and speaking still.
Established is God's Law
and changeless it shall stand,
deep written on the human heart,
on sea, on land.

God has eternal life
implanted in the soul;
and love shall be our strength and stay
while ages roll.
Praise to the Living God,
all praise be to the Name,
that was, and is, and is to be,
and still the same!

From the Jewish Yigdal, c. C13.

Tune LEONI Hebrew Synagogue melody

Let us build a house (All are welcome) YouTube with words and performance of Marty Haugen's hymn of inclusion. He also wrote "Gather Us In". You could play this for a meditation. CoCs #276. Accompaniment *can be purchased here*. Full words *on this pdf* and also *on this page*, with performance examples.

Other hymns and songs for today's readings:

Children of God reach out to one another [O PERFECT LOVE]

Children of God, reach out to one another!
Where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;
to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.

For one whom Jesus loved has truly spoken:
the holier worship God is pleased to bless
gathers the lost, and binds the spirit broken,
and feeds the widow and the fatherless.

Follow with reverent steps the great example
of Christ whose holy work was doing good;
so shall the wide earth seem a holy temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

Then shall all shackles fall; the stormy clangour
of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease;
love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.

J G Whittier (adapted)

[O PERFECT LOVE]

Summoned by the God who made us [NETTLETON or other 87.87D tune] *Nettleton is a lively, easy tune to learn and very useful in the repertoire. This instance is a hymn by Dolores Dufner. 1 hymnal omits the verse about "male and female", but you could sing "Human beings in God's image, all creation God's delight." CoCs #330. Note that this was suggested for Candlemas also.*

This is a day of new beginnings [BEGINNINGS] *A fine hymn by Brian Wren and Carlton R. Young, easy to learn. Good communion hymn when you use the alternate last verse: "In faith we'll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do..." CoCs #495, TiS #653, words on this page, click the pdf link for the music.*

For the fruits of all creation [AR HYD Y NOS aka “All through the night”] *Good offertory hymn for today. Sheet music. CoCs #132, TIS #168 (SG #99, but exclusive language)*

Healing river of the Spirit *Words by Ruth Duck which can be sung to BEACH SPRING or other meditative 87.87D tune such as SCARLET RIBBONS. Could be a Gradual hymn or perhaps during communion.*

When at this table *Very apt communion hymn from Colin Gibson & Shirley Murray with a haunting melody [AHIMILECH] HIOS #148. Definitely worth adding to your Communion repertoire*

With gifts that differ by your grace *Another apt Ruth Duck hymn. Words on this page, scroll right down. KINGSFOLD would be an excellent tune, or perhaps ELLACOMBE*

Every day *Shirley Murray & Colin Gibson’s hymn of self-offering. A lively conclusion! AA #36, or you can find it on this page. Click the pdf symbol for two tunes, the first is Colin’s [LYNNEFRITH]*

Help us accept each other *WOLVERCOTE is a good rousing tune for this hymn by Fred Kaan. TIS #648 (different tune). Or you could plod your way through AURELIA.*

Lord we hear your word with gladness *A fairly traditional style hymn but good words which can be sung to BLAENWERN or NETTLETON*

God of the Bible, God in the gospel *Another lively song, easy to learn, from Shirley Murray and Colin Gibson. FFS #25. Words on this page. There is a different tune to Colin’s linked, but I respectfully suggest that Colin’s [HYDE PARK] is better.*

We lay our broken world [FRANCONIA] *Each verse of this hymn could be used to frame the Intercessions today*

Love the Lord your God with all your heart *If you know this children’s round it can be done with a nice 50s swing, not too fast. There are examples on YouTube. Of course you’ll want to sing “humankind” instead of “of mankind” (“and humankind” in v2). Words and chords here. Origin unknown. Chris Harris suggests this Aussie version (but it’s pitched too low) – there’s a big range in this melody so chords in G major work. (G / Em / C / D repeating).*

7th in Ordinary Time (A): “Love your neighbour”

You could sing “Speak O Lord” or “When at this table”

Lord you hear the cry (Lord have mercy) *Contemporary gospel song, singalong video*

Gentle God when we are driven AA 44 *Shirley Murray/Jillian Bray – a hymn about the strength to forgive*

Christ is made the sure foundation [WESTMINSTER ABBEY or REGENT SQUARE]

Beauty for brokenness (God of the poor) TiS #690, CoCs #302 *Choral version with words Solo version with words and video, good for reflection*

The (A) new commandment ...“by this all people will know you’re my disciples, if you have love one for another”. SiS #12 (non-inclusive words)

Brother, sister, let me serve you [THE SERVANT SONG] AA #8, CoCs #550

Come down, O love divine [DOWN AMPNEY]

O Christ (thou) who came from realms above [HEREFORD] *The linked words are a more contemporary version of the Charles Wesley text.*

Kneels at the feet of his friends (Yesu, Yesu) [CHEREPONI] *Link is to the sheet music. For the words, select full text.*

God of freedom, God of justice [PICARDY aka Let all mortal flesh...] AA #50

Spirit of Jesus, if I love my neighbour [O PERFECT LOVE] *Words by Brian Wren*

From this holy time [LAUDATE DOMINUM] HiOS #31 *Excellent concluding hymn by Marnie Barrell*

O Christ the great foundation [AURELIA aka “The Church’s one foundation”] *You could perhaps omit v4 if it seems rather long.*

We are many, we are one *Words and music*, which can be reproduced with acknowledgment. *Lively hymn of unity from Colin Gibson FFS #67*

God of unexplored tomorrows [CROMWELL or MARCHING] *FFS #27 which may be sung to MARCHING or other 8.7.8.7*

God of the Bible, God in the gospel *Words by Shirley Murray*. *Music is in Faith Forever Singing*

Your words to me are life and health [ABRIDGE] *There are dozens of 86.86 tunes you could use – I like ABRIDGE aka “Be Thou my guardian and my guide”. Good Gradual.*

When I needed a neighbour were you there? *I think no justice is done to this song if it is played too fast. Meditative works much better! Music.*

Who is my mother, who is my brother? [BRONWEN] AA #158 Shirley Murray's hymn about inclusion, with my tune.

8th in Ordinary Time (A): “I have stilled and quieted my soul”

Stilled and quieted my soul (Ps. 131) *Surely one of the outstanding contemporary (1980s!) psalm interpretations from the Maranatha Singers. This beautiful recording could be played before the service as a scene-setter, or during Communion.*

How deep the silence of the soul [TALLIS' THIRD TUNE / THIRD MODE MELODY] *Superb hymn by Sylvia Dunstan, ideal if you have a choir or soloist to sing it during Communion. CoCs #165. [Music. Demo of the tune](#) (different words).*

Other hymns and songs for today:

Come and find the quiet centre [GAELIC TRADITIONAL MELODY] *Shirley Murray's hymn about making space for silence. FFS 10(i). Can also be sung to BEACH SPRING (87.87.D)*

In the singing, in the silence [BREAD OF PEACE] [Lovely communion hymn](#) from Shirley Murray and Carlton Young. *Scroll down for the music. FFS #38, CoCs #519*

To you, O God all creatures sing (“All creatures of our God and king”) [LASST UNS ERFRUEN] *Sr. Miriam Therese Winter provided the adaptation to the words to make them more inclusive. You can sing (as in some other versions) “Sing your praises, alleluia”. “To you O God all creatures sing, and all creation, everything...”. OR...*

All creatures, worship God most high *This is a creative and attractive alternative version to the above. At the end you could sing “Praise to the Trinity be done, by all creation, everyone... (or, “by every daughter, every son”) if you want completely inclusive language. [Here is the text.](#)*

Joyful, joyful we adore you [HYMN (ODE) TO JOY aka Beethoven's 9th] *Great hymn of praise. [Words & music on this page](#) (Click the “full text” tab) TiS #152 Omits verse 4. CoCs #99 (Traditional text)*

I will come to you in the silence (You are mine) *A beautiful contemporary hymn by David Haas (similar in style to “Here I am Lord”). [Words. Melody with chords. Keyboard accompaniment.](#) (Click the next two page numbers for the rest). [Singalong video](#), easy to follow.*

Let all creation dance [DARWALL] *Brian Wren's jubilant hymn. TiS #187 or you can find the [words here.](#)*

O God of earth and space [LEONI] *A useful hymn by Jane Parker Huber. [Words](#) – you need to scroll down.*

When pain and terror strike by chance [KINGSFOLD aka “I heard the voice of Jesus...”] *A challenging text by Brian Wren, also useful anytime in Lent. TiS #262. [Words on this page.](#)*

My soul is at rest in you O God *Beautiful, simple meditation by Australian writer Trisha Watts.*

Morning has broken [BUNESSAN] *Words and music, found in most hymnals*

Our life has its seasons Shirley Murray and Colin Gibson's lively song. [Words](#). AA #113

How much am I worth? Colin Gibson's song is great with kids. Easy guitar chords. HioS #63

Be still and know that I am God The well-known simple song. Text is available in the NZ Prayerbook /HKMOA p. [177](#) (scroll down several pages)

Ma te marie [OLD 100TH] Also on the above page, lovely closing benediction. WoV #679 also has a translation (not for singing): "The peace of God keep us all, who will confirm our hearts in goodness./ May the Son of God and the Holy Spirit too, one God bless us all."

[Be still for the presence of the Lord](#) Sing Glory #7 [Words on this page](#). [Guitar chords & words](#). Singalong video with lyrics:

Several of these suggestions come originally from Natalie Sims' [comprehensive list](#).

Ash Wednesday (A)

Featured songs for Ash Wednesday:

[Sign us with ashes \(Merciful God\)](#) *Lovely song for today by Mary Louise Bringle & Tony Alonso. You could just sing the refrain between sections of the intercessions, for example. Melody line and words.*

[Lord you hear the cry \(Lord have mercy\)](#) *Strong, gospel-influenced song with a justice theme from ResoundWorship. Your congregation could, for example, sing along with the refrain and listen to the verses. Nice key change.*

Dust and ashes touch our face *is a recent hymn by Brian Wren and Hal Hopson. If you don't want to learn a new tune, this would make an excellent poem for reflection before the imposition of ashes.*

[Jesus, you have called us](#) *Simple and plaintive song of personal commitment from Joel Payne (ResoundWorship). Free lead sheet if you register (for free), and you can listen to the recording (paid resources also available)*

Come back to me (Hosea) *Simple and moving song by Gregory Norbet. Singalong video. Chord chart for Capo 3rd fret(easy in D).*

Create in us a clean heart O God *Verses from Psalm 51 in a beautiful setting by Digby Hannah. TiS #712 or "As One Voice" Volume 2 #21.*

[Forgive us when our deeds ignore](#) *A pointed hymn very apt for today. MELCOMBE or MARYTON or other straightforward 88.88 tune will suit.*

Other hymns and songs suitable for Ash Wednesday & Lent:

As the deer pants for the water [NYSTROM] CoCs #148, TiS #703, "Songs of the nations" #460

Be thou my vision [SLANE] *In every hymnbook! Here's a version with inclusive words.*

Give thanks with a grateful heart [GIVE THANKS] TiS #717, SG #108, CoCs #134

God forgave my sin [FREELY, FREELY] CoCs #627, HFTC #s.12

Jesus Christ, son of God (TiS #729) *Very simple cantored (echo) Kyrie from the Iona Community*

Put peace into each other's hands [ST COLUMBA] *This revised version of the published text is superior to the original – possibly the author's own revision*

Have mercy on us, Living Lord (or "God") TiS #31 86.86 metre – *could be sung to HORSLEY aka "There is a green hill..."*

Some suggestions from New Zealand writers, all from "Alleluia Aotearoa":

Christ let us come with you is suitable for a Eucharist (AA #17)

Christ is our peace (AA #16)

He came singing love (AA #59)

Let justice roll down like a river (AA #85)

Tama ngakau marie (AA # 128)

Teach us O loving heart of Christ (AA # 130) *can be sung to ST COLUMBA or other 86.86*
Now unto him (AA #102) *Suitable for closing*

God of freedom, God of justice (AA #50) *Effective when sung to the suggested tune PICARDY*

God of the galaxies (AA #54)

From Faith "Forever Singing":

Come and find the quiet centre *A good choice for opening Ash Wednesday worship.* (FFS #10 (i))

E Te Ariki (Lord have mercy) (FFS #13) *A cantored (echo) Kyrie.*

1st Sunday in Lent (A): “Temptation in the wilderness”

If you want more choices, consider the material from Ash Wednesday, e.g. “Jesus you have called us”

Featured hymns and songs for today:

In what strange land will I sing your song [MYSTERIUM] *Haunting song from Shirley Murray and Colin Gibson which could be learned/used throughout Lent. Tune reminiscent of the theme from “Exodus” and is easy to learn. “You test my faith in a different sphere, O God, my God”. HioS #77*

When we are tested [SLANE aka “Be thou my vision”] *This is a really good reflection on the text from Ruth Duck. Words here. Suitable for the Gradual. CoCs #453 (different tune).*

Jesus, tempted in the desert [EBENEZER, aka “O the deep deep love of Jesus”] or other 87.87D tune e.g. BEACH SPRING or RUSTINGTON.

Other hymns and songs related to the readings:

Love will be our Lenten calling [PICARDY aka “Let all mortal flesh...”] TiS #684 *Superb hymn from Elizabeth J. Smith. Scroll down on this page for the words. Use anytime in Lent. Could be a concluding hymn.*

God marked a line and told the sea *An unusual didactic hymn from Thomas Troeger that references Genesis. 88.88 (LM) tune, such as WAREHAM or ANGELUS.*

Touch the earth lightly [TENDERNESS] AA #143, TiS #668, CoCs #137 (different tune). *This hymn about the stewardship of creation (Murray/Gibson) also works well sung to BUNESSAN aka “Morning has broken”. Offertory or gradual hymn.*

First set your mind on the reign of our God *Adaptation of “Seek ye first”, inclusive words. TiS #745, WoV #635, CoCs #599. The “refrain” of alleluias after each verse makes this song very tedious – better to use it as a descant to the third verse.*

First set your mind on the reign of our God
and upon justice and truth,
then all you need will be given day by day, allelu, alleluia.

No-one can live by bread alone,
sharp is our hunger of soul,
only the word of our God will sustain, allelu, alleluia.

Ask and it will be given to you,
seek and you shall find,
knock and the door will be opened to you, allelu, alleluia.

Based on the Gospel of Matthew, after Karen Lafferty & Colin Gibson

Forty days and forty nights [HEINLEIN] *Perhaps the quintessential hymn for today. This version of the words avoids archaisms (“thou wast”) and progressive types may wish to sing “If temptations on us press...” in verse 3.*

[Amazing grace](#) [ENGLISH TUNE, as it is sometimes called] *Click the “full text” tab for this most familiar (Judy Collins) version – verse 3 is often omitted.*

What a friend we have in Jesus [CONVERSE] *I suggest following HFTC substituting “burdened” for “cumbered”, “will” for “wilt” and “Blessed” for “Precious”.*

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy [ABBOT’S LEIGH aka “Glorious things...] *Colin Gibson’s There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, is an adaptation of the original. HiOS #135. Could be an opening hymn.*

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There's no place where human sorrows
are more deeply felt than heaven;
there's no place where human failings
have such kindly judgments given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make that love too narrow
by the limits of our own;
and we magnify God's strictness
with a zeal Love will not own.

There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that endless world of bliss.
If our love were but more simple,
we would trust the living Word;
and our lives would fill with gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

F W Faber, adapted by Colin Gibson.

Christ be my leader [SLANE] *A good gradual hymn from Timothy Dudley-Smith.*

God come now to explore my heart [MYLOR] *Excellent reflective hymn from Marnie Barrell, which can also be sung to KINGSFOLD aka “I heard the voice of Jesus say”. HiOS #38*

When at this table [AHIMILECH] *Perfect communion hymn for Lent. HiOS #148. Link has a different tune to the NZ one.*

God within our deepest thought *Another interesting text from Shirley Murray, which you could sing to DIX aka "As with gladness..."*

2nd Sunday in Lent (A): “Abraham’s faith, Nicodemus’ questions”

Consider material from last week and Ash Wednesday. “Love will be our Lenten calling”; “Jesus you have called us”, & “In what strange land?” are all appropriate

Singing Psalm 121 (Instead of reciting it)

I to the hills will lift my eyes [FRENCH or other 86.86D] TiS #76

Lifting my eyes up to the hills [FECUNDITY or HORSLEY or other 86.86D] TiS #77

O God our help in ages past [ST. ANNE] *Linked text is an inclusive version. Music.*

[He will not let you fall](#) *Another catchy modern psalm (121) from the Maranatha singers. The congregation could sing along with the very simple refrain.*

The words and simple chords are [on this page](#), click “SHOW MORE”.

God’s call to Abraham:

God it was who said to Abraham [LEWIS FOLK MELODY aka GAELIC AIR (TiS #477) aka GAELIC TRADITIONAL MELODY (FFS #10(i) *Excellent hymn recounting stories of God’s call. An alternative hymn to this tune is Jesus calls us here to meet him (TiS #477) which is also very apt as an opening hymn today. (87.87D). In FFS (10i) The text is “Come and find the quiet centre” which could also be apt in Lent.*

The living God be praised (The God of Abraham praise) [LEONI] *Thanks to Natalie Sims for pointing to this revised, inclusive text. If you are sensitive to using YHWH in song, you could substitute “Creator” for “Jehovah”. Click the “full text” tab for the words. This could be an opening or closing hymn.*

to-abraham-and-sarah [THORNBURY, or MORNING LIGHT aka “Stand up, stand up for Jesus” or other 76.76D tune] *Good (gradual) hymn from Judith Fetter, who gives permission for her hymn to be reproduced for worship. Text also [on this page](#), scroll right down.*

To Abraham and Sarah the call of God was clear:

“Go forth and I will show you a country rich and fair.

You need not fear the journey for I have pledged my word:

that you shall be my people, and I will be your God.”

From Abraham and Sarah arose a pilgrim race,
dependent for their journey on God’s abundant grace;
and in their heart was written by God this saving word:
“that you shall be my people, and I will be your God.”

We of this generation on whom God’s hand is laid,
can journey to the future secure and unafraid,
rejoicing in God’s goodness and trusting in this word:

that you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Text by Judith A. Fetter

Permission granted for churches to use in worship

76.76D: Tunes such as Thornbury or Morning Light

God's call to everyone:

Will you come and follow me? (The Summons) [KELVINGROVE] *Popular hymn from the Iona Community. CoCs #586, SG #634.*

Christ has changed the world's direction [MICHAEL aka "All my hope..."] *Stirring hymn from Shirley Murray to a stirring tune. The first 4 verses may be enough. CoCs #356, HiOS #15 (new tune). I must confess I balk at "internet" (v.5) and imagine singing "Christ who teaches us to care".*

Let your heart be broken [AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE] *Very worthwhile call to live out the Gospel. To make the text inclusive alter "mankind" to "the world" (as CoCS does, #353) and the last line to "God gives the gift of grace". Music also in FFS #34. The linked music has guitar chords in G.*

I have called you by your name CoCs #636 *Words are on this page, click the pdf symbol which is a link to the music. Lovely song from Dan Damon.*

I the Lord of sea and sky [HERE I AM LORD] CoCs #640, TiS #658, SG #633. *This singalong video is in the contemporary worship style. Watch out for the bridge which is not part of the original song. This video version is in a folk style (no lyrics)*

Addition selections:

Give thanks with a grateful heart [GIVE THANKS] TiS #717, SG #108, CoCs #134

Guide me O my great redeemer [CWM RHONDDA]

Where the road runs out [COLUMBUS] AA #156. *Words on this page*

One more step along the world I go *Words on this page. Click the pdf symbol for the music.*

Now to your table spread [LOVE UNKNOWN] AA #100 *A good choice for communion today*

Jesus the Lord said "I am the bread" [URDU TUNE aka YISU NE KAHA] *Lovely simple communion (or post-communion) hymn, very easy to learn. TiS #239. Melody line. Organ demo of the tune. Full words.*

Christ let us come with you [WROSLYN ROAD] AA #17 (Murray/Gibson) *Words are on this page. Click the pdf link for Colin's tune. Good Lenten communion/offertory hymn.*

3rd Sunday in Lent (A): “Worship in Spirit and in truth”

Featured:

[I have no bucket and the well is deep](#) Chris Harris has just found this hymn from Brian Wren. It’s really profound writing. You can click the pdf link for a new tune, but you can also sing this to THE OLD 124th which may not be well known. However, if you’re willing to repeat the last line, you can sing this to a 10.10.10.10.10 tune, including UNDE ET MEMORES aka “And now O Father, mindful...” which is a good match to the mood.

[Come and believe it! See what God is doing](#) [CHRISTE SANCTORUM] If your congregation knows this tune, this would make an excellent opening hymn today.

Singing Psalm 95 (Venite)

[Come sing praises to the Lord above](#) [CALYPSO CAROL] A good opportunity to use the lively “Calypso Carol” tune other than at Christmas! TiS #53 Tune: SG #361, HFTC #91

Let us sing to the God of salvation [SING HOSANNA aka “Give me oil...”]

Let us sing to the Rock of salvation,
and rejoice in the holy One;
let us come into God's holy presence,
with thanksgiving as our offering!

Praise our maker, praise our Saviour,

lift your voices till the echoes ring;

every throne will yield to God

the sovereign over everything.

God is holding the earth's deepest chasms,
and the peaks of the mountains high;
all the seas have been set in their places,
by the One who fashioned earth and sky.

Praise our maker...

Let us worship our mighty creator,
let us kneel to the Most High God;
for we all are a flock led to pasture,
ever guided by an unseen hand.

Praise our maker...

Let today be the time when you listen!
May our hearts not be hard or cold,
lest we stray from our God in rebellion
as the people did in time of old.

Praise our maker...

After Psalm 95, [Venite] , & Richard Bewes

[Come with all joy to sing to God](#) [FULDA aka “We have a gospel to proclaim”] You may wish to select from the 7 verses!

Come sing with joy to God [DARWALL aka “You holy angels bright”]

I (we) sing the mighty power of God [ELLACOMBE] TiS #119 I think Natalie Sims is right to suggest ELLACOMBE for the tune here. [This version of the text](#) is good, but verse two might be adapted to be more inclusive, e.g.

We sing the goodness of the One
who filled the earth with food;
and formed the creatures through the Word
and then pronounced them good.
O, how your wonders are displayed,
where'er we turn our eyes,
if we survey the ground we tread
or gaze upon the skies.

This would make a good opening or gradual hymn

Other hymns and songs for today

[God! when human bonds are broken](#) [CROSS OF JESUS] TiS #683

[Amazing grace](#) Click the “full text” tab

[Amazing grace / My chains are gone](#) Stunningly good, upbeat a cappella version. You could play/show this as an Introit

[Draw near and take the body of the Lord](#) [SURNUM CORDA] Sombre communion hymn for Lent. Pairs of verses fit a 10.10.10.10 tune. You could (at a push) sing this to EVENTIDE aka “Abide with me”

[To Christ who once this supper made](#) [WAREHAM or other 88.88 tune] Another Lenten communion hymn from Christopher Idle

[My Lord of light, who made the worlds](#) [BARBARA ALLEN] A confessional hymn from Christopher Idle – suitable for the gradual, although not inclusive God-language

[Eat this bread and never hunger](#) Dan Damon’s hymn is so easy to learn and a gift to the repertoire. Click the pdf link for the music

Praise the One who breaks the darkness [NETTLETON] A strong hymn from Rusty Edwards. 87.87D tune.

[O God beyond all praising](#) [THAXTED aka “I vow to thee...”] A very grand hymn to open worship with

[I heard the voice of Jesus say](#) [KINGSFOLD] Classic hymn in many books

[As the deer pants for the water](#) [NYSTROM] CoCs #148, TiS #703, “Songs of the nations” #460. Uplifting [singalong version](#) (modern lyrics) – stop at end of song before prayers.

[O God you search me](#) Bernadette Farrell's popular song. [Words here](#). [Sample sheet music](#), available for purchase from [OCP](#).

4th Sunday in Lent (A): “Though I was blind, now I see”

Today’s Gospel reading lends itself to a dramatic reading by several voices

Singing Psalm 23

The Lord’s my shepherd [CRIMOND] CoCS #259

The king of love my shepherd is [ST COLUMBA] CoCS #262

[Because the Lord is my shepherd](#) [WALKER] Attractive song from Christopher Walker.

You could listen to this as a meditation before the service, or during communion. It would need confident leadership for the congregation to learn it. “Sing Glory” #513, “As One Voice” #1-66

[Come away from rush and hurry](#) Marva J. Dawn’s hymn can be sung to [BEACH SPRING](#), SCARLET RIBBONS or other reflective 87.87D tune. CoCS #83

[Faithful shepherd, feed me](#) [PASTOR PASTORUM]

[The Lord my shepherd rules my life](#) [BROTHER JAMES’ AIR]

[Because the Lord is my shepherd](#) [NEW 23rd] Another lovely meditation!

The Lord is my shepherd Keith Green’s immortal ’70s rock version

Hymns and songs about light & healing:

[Christ is the world’s light](#) [CHRISTE SANCTORUM] The linked text here is from “Celebrating Grace Hymnal” and is the only one which is reasonably inclusive.

Longing for light (Christ be our light) (Farrell) [Singalong video](#). “Praying in Song #242, or you can [buy the score](#). The [words are on this page](#).

[Christ is the world’s true light](#) [NUN DANKET aka “Now thank we...”] The linked text is hopelessly exclusive language, which is a pity because otherwise this is a strong hymn. TiS #238 has (V1): “desire of every nation”, “for all who own his (s)way”; (V2): “all shall forsake...” (V3): “who own you...{etc}”. HFTC #323 is better, too: “where we accept his way” & “has laboured long in pain”.

Wind upon the waters Beautiful song from Marty “Gather us in” Haugen. Video and words [on this page](#). Sheet music & chords [on this page](#), and on p490 (click). Keep this one for Pentecost, too! CoCs #49

[God of dawn, each day’s renewal](#) A great opening hymn by Marjorie Dobson. 87.87D tune, so many options including AUSTRIA (aka “Glorious things...”) or RUSTINGTON etc. CoCs #51 (new tune)

Healer of our every ill Another winner from Marty Haugen! Very easy to learn, and apt for today. Words [here](#). Music with chords [on this page](#). Marty’s [own recording](#) – you could sing along to this if the congregation has the words. CoCs #547

I heard the voice of Jesus say [KINGSFOLD] Classic hymn to a [lovely folk tune](#) (music). A good (less sentimental) revision of the second line is in CoCs #31: "I bring good tidings of release to you who are oppressed". TiS #585 has modernized words. Singalong to this organ [video](#).

Wisdom far beyond our knowledge [CORONATION ROAD] Colin's hymn (HiOS #157) can be sung to a suitably reflective 87.87D tune, such as [GAELIC AIR](#) [aka LEWIS FOLK MELODY] (TiS #477, FFS #10(i))

[Here is bread, here is wine](#) (Kendrick) I prefer "... feast with Jesus here". Linked video is a rather "purple" version of quite a straightforward communion song. "Praying in Song" #175. [This page](#) has a list of sources.

Open our eyes, Lord This 70s worship song would make a suitable reflection after the sermon, or as a short gradual hymn. "Songs of the Kingdom" #185. [Syrupy singalong video](#).

See also the "Amazing Grace" video & "Eat this bread and never hunger" & "Praise the One who breaks the darkness" from Lent 3

5th Sunday in Lent (A): “The raising of Lazarus”

“Eat this bread and never hunger” can be used again today.

[Holy Spirit, heaven’s breath](#) A straightforward new hymn from Christopher Idle, with several options for verses. To make it apt for today’s text, you could be cheeky and adapt v1 thus: “...safe and sound, or lost and lone, draw together flesh and bone.” (Yes, it does sound a bit like “the Scottish play”.) Or perhaps simply “...lone and lost, bring us a new Pentecost”. BUCKLAND (aka “Loving shepherd of your sheep”) is a suitable 77.77 tune.

[Spirit of God most high](#) Vibrant text from David Mowbray, which would make a great opening hymn. The tune is LITTLE CORNARD aka “Hills of the north, rejoice”. A great use for this tune!

Come down O love divine [DOWN AMPNEY] Contemporary, inclusive words along with music and easy chords in D [on this page](#). For text only I like [this version](#), but would change, as many do, “its dwelling” to “a dwelling” (this instead of “his dwelling”).

Spirit blowing through creation We have been featuring a number of songs by Marty Haugen recently, and this is another valuable one for the repertoire. [Words on this page](#). [Live performance video](#) (quite fast!) [Melody line](#), and page following. I have the music in “As One Voice” #2-51. But the [sheet music is also online](#).

Great God, your Spirit like the wind [[JERUSALEM](#)] A great use for this grand tune, suits the opening or closing of a service. You can also sing this to [YE BANKS AND BRAES](#) (Click also for page 141 or it’s in HFTC #220). Words in TiS #416, or available via [CCLI](#), if you use that licensing scheme.

Come O God of all the earth (Sing out, earth and skies) Lively song from Marty Haugen, which can be sung responsively. Words, music and easy guitar chords [on this page](#) and the following one (click for page 692). TiS #181. [Lyrics and video demo](#).

O breath of life, come sweeping through us [SPIRITUS VITAE (98.98)] Simple tune for a short hymn that does what it says on the label. Some sources (TiS #409) have 4 verses, others just the first three (CoCs #486), which are all inclusive language. [See this page for versions](#), Church Hymnary version has 4 verses

Breathe on me, breath of God The [well known hymn](#) published in many hymnals, and this linked version is in contemporary language. I think the best tune is [TRENTHAM](#). CARLISLE is far too bouncy for Lent!

Blow through the valleys Bill Bennett’s song is popular in NZ, especially in his home Diocese. FFS #6

[When human voices cannot sing](#) [ST COLUMBA aka “The king of love...”] Sensitive hymn about grief in a Christian context by Shirley Murray. AA #151

[When we are living, we are in the Lord](#) [SOMOS DEL SENOR] Music TiS #778

Singing Psalm 130: De Profundis

[Out of the depths I cry ST. CECILIA](#) [(66.66) aka “Thy kingdom come O God”] Perfect, simple gradual by David Mowbray

[Up from the depths I cry to God](#) Another good hymn from Christopher Idle, suited to the gradual, or perhaps a post-sermon reflection. [KINGSFOLD](#) is a suitable tune.

Out of the depths O God we call to you This is lovely, and worth learning the published tune FENNVILLE. [Words, music and chords](#) in Dm. CoCs #228

[Out of the depths I cry to thee](#) Contemporary folk song in traditional language. Good scene-setting music, or could be played during communion:

[Out of the depths](#) (Psalm 130) If you are having a service with young people, this anthemic rock version from “Sovereign Grace” might be useful:

In these moments we remember **This communion song** (CoCs #515) by Ken Medema has a tune that sounds straight out of “The Sacred Harp”, so it would work well to BEACH SPRING (87.87D).

In the singing, in the silence [BREAD OF PEACE] [Lovely communion hymn](#) from Shirley Murray and Carlton Young. Scroll down for the music. FFS #38, CoCs #519

Lord turn our grieving into grace [SOLOMON’S MEMORY] FFS #45 Shirley Murray’s words set to my tune. You would need a competent group of singers to lead this one.

Passion Sunday / Palm Sunday (A)

Featured video:

[Lord you hear the cry \(Lord have mercy\)](#) *This would set the scene for Palm Sunday perfectly if used to convey the sense of hope for a Messiah that the people had. This video has all the words.*

Featured hymn:

No tramp of soldiers marching feet *An evocative hymn by Timothy-Dudley Smith for Palm Sunday, suitable perhaps for closing the service, or possibly at the Offertory. Kingsfold is an appropriate tune.*

Featured song:

[Make way, make way](#) (YouTube video (with words) of Graham Kendrick's song) *Very suitable for a Palm Sunday entry/opening. The spoken beginning is optional. Found in a number of books, including Songs of the Nations #587)*

[Hosanna, hosanna](#) (Carl Tuttle – YouTube video from *Songs of the Nations* #538.) *Would make an excellent medley with 'Make Way' as they are both in the key of G.*

Other suitable material for Palm Sunday:

['When his time was over'](#) (Robin Mann) TiS #357 *Evocative song for Palm Sunday and Holy Week. Really worth learning – should be a standard part of the repertoire for this time of year.*

'All glory, praise (laud) and honour' [ST THEOLDULPH] TiS #333, CoCs #467, HFTC #120 and many other hymnals. [Modernised lyrics](#). *Standard processional hymn for Palm Sunday.*

['There's a man riding in on a donkey'](#) HFTC #S.11 *A different context for SING HOSANNA (the well-worn 'Give me oil in my lamp'). Excellent with children and a good alternative to 'Make Way' above. You may need a free membership to Jubilate Group to get access to the words. Best on [guitar](#)*

'I will enter his gates (with thanksgiving in my heart)' Scripture in Song (SoP) #139. [Lyrics](#). *A gospel version to make you glad! I'd love to use this as a prelude to worship.*

'My song is love unknown' (LOVE UNKNOWN) [Modernised lyrics](#). *Lovely arrangement in [this video](#). I suggest selected verses.*

'Ride on, ride on in majesty' (WINCHESTER NEW) HFTC #119, TiS #348. [Lyrics](#) and [video](#).

'You are the king of glory' (Mavis Ford) *Songs of the Kingdom* #118. [Video](#).

'Lift up your heads (Kia hiwa ra)' *Songs of the Kingdom* #13 As sung by [Shiloh Whanau](#). [YouTube video](#).

The King of Glory comes TiS #279 Lively Israeli-style song. Words [on this page](#), and you can click the music link for a melody line and guitar chords. [Rather fast and cheesy demo performance](#).

Come into the streets with me (Murray)[SEE SAW SACCARA DOWN] AA #022 Lively, for kids. [Lyrics](#)

Many of the hymns and songs from the season of Lent are suitable in association with the Passion Narrative, but some additional suggestions are:

Meekness and majesty (Kendrick) “Praying in Song” #266. Graham Kendrick’s own singalong [video](#) – nice arrangement.

From heaven you came (The Servant King) [SERVANT KING] TiS #256. [All the resources you could need](#), even if you don’t have a musician.

An upper room did our Lord prepare [O WALY WALY] TiS #536

O sacred head PASSION CHORALE CoCs #463 [Here is a helpful version of the words](#), especially if you use verses 1, 2 & 4

This is my body, broken for you (In love for me) [with the lovely extra verses here](#) “Songs of the Kingdom” #79 [Link to the original recording](#)

Lift high the cross (Murray) AA #87 CRUCIFER Good processional hymn

[Lord Jesus for my sake you come](#) (Perry) Deserves wider use at this time of year. HFTC #133 Could be sung to ANGELUS or WAREHAM.

Maundy Thursday (A): and as a reference list for Holy Communion

'Relentless lover, God in Christ' (Kingsfold) [Lyrics](#) by from Marnie Barrell. Also in FFS #55

'Eat this bread and never hunger' (Damon) CoCs #530

['Come to the banquet \(there's a place for you\)'](#) *Fay White's easy and catchy song of invitation. Your congregation could easily sing along – the lyrics are on the YouTube clip. This would make an excellent opening song.*

'Amazing grace'

'A (The) new commandment'

'An upper room did our Lord prepare' (O Waly Waly)

'Broken for me, broken for you'

'Gifts of bread and wine'

'Here is bread, here is wine' (Kendrick)

'Lord Jesus Christ, you have come to us'

'Love is his word'

'Meekness and majesty' (Kendrick)

'Be still, for the presence of the Lord'

'Broken for me, broken for you'

'Eat this bread' (Taizé) CoCs #528

'Jesus stand among us'

'Let us break bread together on our knees' CoCs #521

'Stay with me' (Taizé)

'Ubi caritas' (Taizé)

'Jesu, Jesu (fill us with your love)' aka 'Kneels at the feet of his friends' CoCs #367 *Check to see that your version has inclusive language.*

'God of our journeys'

'I come with joy, a child of God' (Wren) 86.86

'I love the Lord'

'O God you search me' (Farrell)

'On this night'

'Oh welcome all ye noble saints of old'

NZ Repertoire

'E te Ariki (Lord have mercy)' (Render) FFS #13

'In the singing, in the silence' (Murray/Young) FFS #38 CoCs #519

'Now to your table spread' (Murray) LOVE UNKNOWN AA #100

'For the bread and wine and blessing' (Murray/Jansen) AA #39

'Do this in remembrance of me' (Val Cash) AA #29

'Christ let us come with you' (Murray/Gibson) AA #17

'Brother, sister, let me serve you' (The Servant Song) (Gillard) AA #8, CoCs #550

'He came singing love' (Gibson) AA #59, CoCs #226

Good Friday (A)

If your service is Eucharistic, several of the selections for Maundy Thursday would be suitable.

'On a cool and autumn dawn' – Bill Bennett's NZ hymn (for the Southern Hemisphere!). *Easy tune, chords provided in 'Hope is our Song' #110*

Some core items you may want to consider including:

'When I survey the wondrous cross'. *Suits as a closing hymn.*

'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?' *Suggestion: do not use verses or phrases that refer to the Resurrection*

'(Jesus walked this) lonesome valley' CoCs #452

'O sacred head, surrounded' CoCs #463

'Jesus, remember me' (Taizé) CoCs #459

'Meekness and majesty' (Kendrick). *Suitable opening song.*

'Come and see, come and see' (Kendrick)

'From heaven you came, helpless babe' aka 'The Servant King' (Kendrick)

'Glory be to Jesus'. *A bit Victorian gothic, but some will like to use it*

'What a friend we have in Jesus'. *On Good Friday, the tune Scarlet Ribbons would be fitting rather than the jolly Converse.*

'There is a redeemer' (Melody Green)

'I will sing the wondrous story' (HYFRYDOL)

'O Christ who by a cross made peace your sign' SURSUM CORDA (Murray/Gibson) AA #105

'My song is love unknown' (selected verses)

'When his time was over' TiS #357 *Well worth learning for your Holy Week repertoire.*

'Here hangs a man discarded' (Passion Chorale)

'I cannot tell why he whom angels worship' Londonderry Air aka 'Danny Boy'. *Suggestion: Use the first two verses only, possibly with the last verse too, but this tune can be draggy if too many verses are sung.*

The Feast of the Resurrection (A): Easter - Suitable for use in all years

Your Easter Day worship deserves a rich selection of familiar material and more recent hymns and songs which speak to us of “newness of life”. If everything is very familiar and well-worn, we might miss the sense of utter astonishment at the inbreaking of God’s unconquerable life.

Featured song: *Annie Herring’s classic 1970s “Easter Song” in a new version sung by her brother Matthew Ward. Great quality video, would make wonderful exit music during the Easter Season, or perhaps as a “scene setter” before your service begins. Also TiS #389*

Featured Easter hymn:

Christ is alive (and the universe must celebrate) Murray/Bray AA #15 *Sometimes you just have to go for it and learn something new! This is a wonderful hymn to open (or close) your service with. “Praise the power that made the stone roll away”.*

Contemporary lyrics set to well-known tunes:

Praise the One who breaks the darkness Rusty Edwards. *General praise hymn, but suited to Easter, especially at night or early morning, as are the two below*

Christ has risen while earth slumbers John Bell (Iona Community)

At the dawning of salvation Jock Curle TiS #392

All these three sets of excellent words (above) can be sung to various 87.87D tunes such as NETTLETON, HYFRYDOL or CONVERSE (aka “What a friend...”)

At the dawning of salvation;
in the morning of the world,
Christ is raised, a living banner
by the love of God unfurled.
Through the day and through the darkness,
you lead on your great array:
all the saints and all the sinners
you have gathered on your way.

You are risen in the morning,
you are risen from the dead;
you are laughter after sadness,
you are life when night has fled.
You have suffered, you have triumphed,
life is yours alone to give:
as you gave it once, you give it
evermore that we may live.

For the glory of salvation
in the dawn of Easter day
we will praise you, our Creator;
we rejoice to sing and pray
with your Christ and with your Spirit

lead us on, your great array,
saints and sinners celebrating
your triumphant love today.

Christ is alive, let Christians sing (Brian Wren) TRURO CoCs #473

Up from the earth Rory Cooney WOODLANDS (aka "Tell out my soul") *This deserves to be better known! It makes a wonderful processional hymn.*

Up from the earth, and surging like a wave,
rise up, O Christ! your God defies the grave.

Up from the earth push blade and leaf and stem,
they rise from Christ, and we shall rise with them!

Up from the cross a billion voices strain,
cry for a hand to lift them from their pain.

Up from the cross but scarred in limbs and side,
a wounded Church brings healing far and wide.

Up from the night Christ morning star awakes.

O what a light upon earth's darkness breaks!

Up from the night Christ sows his life like wheat,
and death itself lies fallow at his feet!

Up from the tomb of all the past conceals!

See how our God a brighter day reveals.

Up from the tomb! Though death had bound us tight,
like Lazarus we stumble into light.

Cry to the cross where tyrants work their dread!

Shout to the tombs where parents mourn their dead!

Sing to the earth, for God all newness gives!

Alleluia! Christ Liberator lives!

Rory Cooney

You Lord are both Lamb and Shepherd (“Christus Paradox”) [PICARDY] Linked text or CoCs #22 Stunning modern words by Sylvia Dunstan to the French traditional carol tune.

O Risen Christ still wounded [PASSION CHORALE or AURELIA] Powerful words from Carl P Daw Linked text or CoCs #41 *Note that the two different tunes have quite different moods. I'd choose AURELIA (sung briskly!) for a celebratory style*

Good shepherd, you know us, you call us by name [ST DENIO aka “Immortal, invisible”] *Essentially inclusive language hymn which could be apt at the Offertory.*

Traditional selections:

The day of resurrection ELLACOMBE TiS #361

Jesus Christ is risen today EASTER HYMN TiS #362, CoCs #476

All creation join to say Charles Wesley WURTTENBURG HFTC #150

Light's glittering morning fills the sky EASTER SONG HFTC #157 *Suggest selected verses*

Thine be the glory MACCABEUS *This hymn is often modernised to read “Yours be the glory” but this is somewhat infelicitous when sung. Perhaps better is the version beginning “Glory to Jesus, risen, conquering Son... over death you won.” Otherwise the words version in HFTC #167 is good.*

Songs

Now the green blade rises NOEL NOUVELET CoCs #482

Easter Song (Hear the bells ringing) Annie Herring TiS #389

Hallelujah! We sing your praises Lively South African hymn TiS #541, CoCs #656

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord *(Usually the verse including “the just reward” is omitted!)*

All heaven declares the glory of the risen Lord “Sing Glory” #420

He is Lord, he is Lord (Te Ariki): A version in Te Reo Maori: *Te Ariki, Te Ariki, kua ara mai e koe i te mate. Koropikoria, whakaatungia, ko Ihu te Ariki.*
”

He came singing love CoCs #226, AA #59

This is the day ...when he rose again! HFTC Song #28

I will enter his gates (with thanksgiving in my heart) Scripture in Song (SoP) #139. *A gospel version to make you glad! I'd love to use this as a prelude to worship. [Lyrics.](#)*

Lord of the dance CoCs #23

Peruvian Gloria (Could be sung instead of reciting the Gloria, or as a Gospel acclamation)

2nd Sunday of Easter (A): “Not seeing is Believing”

Many of the Easter Day hymns are suitable, especially ones you didn't use last week!

Featured:

Blessed is the body and the soul (Dan Damon) CoCs #238. *Easy to learn, and so apt for communion today. “Touch me, Thomas, touch and doubt no more...”*

My Lord, my God, the living One [FULDA, aka “We have a gospel to proclaim”]. *Recent hymn to a well-known tune, ideal for today, perhaps as the Gradual hymn.*

Morning of mornings, Jesus has risen [BUNESSAN aka “Morning has broken”] *A simple three verse (Gradual) hymn apt for today: “...but, when they saw him in all his glory, knew he had risen – gladness for tears! “*

Also suitable for today:

Jesus comes with clouds descending (“Lo he comes” ...) HFTC #196 or [here \(click for full text\)](#) [HELMSLEY or BRYN CALFARIA]

Jesus came the heavens adoring HFTC #195(i) [PICARDY] *Lyrics very suitable for today. You'll need a free membership to Jubilate Hymns to get the full text*

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases Songs of the Kingdom #209

Jesus stand among us in your risen power HFTC #364 [NORTH COATES aka “O my Saviour lifted”] *Could be used as an Introit or Gradual.*

Jesus stand among us at the meeting of our lives Songs of the Kingdom #222 *The Youtube version could be played during Communion, especially since it includes “Here is Bread”*

Come to the celebration all who are hungry AA #27 CANA *Marnie Barrell's communion (or opening) hymn fits the rejoicing character of Eastertide. “Who is invited to the house of the bridegroom to live while the dead are left to bury the dead?” On the AA cd, too.*

3rd Sunday of Easter (A): “The Road to Emmaus”

You may wish to consider the many Easter-themed hymns and songs from first weeks of the Easter season

Featured:

The tomb is empty (Sylvia Dunstan/David Hass) *Lively, joyful song reminiscent of Annie Herring’s Easter Song (Hear the bells ringing) – TiS #389.*

Three hymns referencing the Journey to Emmaus:

Sing of one who walks beside us [BEACH SPRING or other suitable 87.87D tune]

As we walk along beside you [RECOGNITION] FFS #3 Perry/Render – *note the variant “alleluias” and repetition of “for we see you in the breaking...” which make a 4th verse in “Faith Forever Singing”*

A stranger met by chance [UNDE ET MEMORES aka “And now O Father mindful...”] *Also in HiOS #2. Another excellent text from Marnie Barrell. Well known tune.*

If you would like to sing an Affirmation of Faith today:

We believe in God the Father [ODE TO JOY or other 87.87D tune] *Timothy Dudley-Smith’s straightforward hymn works well, although I can imagine some adaptation here and there...*

Other possibilities for Holy Communion:

When at this table [AHIMILECH] *Lovely hymn, challenging words, by Shirley Murray & Colin Gibson, HiOS #148*

[Come to the banquet, there’s a place for you](#)

Come risen Lord as guest among your own [SURSUM CORDA] HFTC #399(ii), *older words at TiS #524*

For the bread which you have broken [CROSS OF JESUS] *also in HFTC #403*

Hymns and songs suitable for today:

The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet [WOODLANDS, aka “Tell out my soul”] *Excellent words and uplifting music for sending forth! Inclusive language. Also found in CoCs #477*

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord [ALLELUIA #1] *The verse “God has proclaimed the just reward” is usually omitted for theological reasons.*

Jesus stand among us (at the meeting of our lives)

Now the green blade rises [NOEL NOUVELET] CoCs #482

Love divine, all loves excelling [BLAENWERN]

We are one in the bond of love

This joyful Eastertide [VREUCHTEN]

To be in your presence "Sing Glory" #523

4th Sunday of Easter (A): “The Good Shepherd”

Good shepherd, you know us, you call us by name [ST DENIO aka “Immortal, invisible”] *Essentially inclusive language hymn which could be apt at the Offertory.*

Awake from your slumber (City of God) *Lively song from Dan “Here I am Lord” Schutte. The bridge section may be omitted. [Lyrics](#). Sample [sheet music](#) in E maj.*

Here I stand among God’s people [ABBEYFIELD, or another 87.87D tune, e.g. BLAENWERN] HiOS #55. *This confirmation hymn from Marnie Barrell fits the Acts reading well.*

Great God as we are gathering [86.86 (C.M.) tune, e.g. ABRIDGE or UNIVERSITY] *Click the “full text” tab for the lyrics.*

Filled with the Spirit’s power, with one accord [WOODLANDS aka “Tell out my soul”] *Excellent concluding (or possibly processional) hymn*

This is the truth we hold [LITTLE CORNARD aka “Hills of the north, rejoice”] TiS #469 – *if you hold a CCLI Licence the words are available there (song #1075150). Perfect concluding hymn for the Easter season.*

We are one in the Spirit (They’ll know we are Christians) *Care should be taken to use inclusive lyrics as in this contemporary singalong version. Words and chords, non-inclusive version.*

All things are yours [88.88 (LM)tune, e.g. WAREHAM] *Hymn about self-giving and compassion, suited to the Gradual or Offertory slots.*

How much am I worth? [LANGLEY] HiOS #63. *Perfect all-age song from Colin Gibson, super-easy to learn with chords in G in the book. Swings along nicely. Click the pdf logo on the linked page for the music (but no chords)*

We are many, we are one *Another easy, bouncy song of unity from Colin Gibson. Words and music. FFS #67 has the introduction and the easy chords. Good opener.*

You Lord are both Lamb and Shepherd (“Christus Paradox”) [PICARDY] *Linked text or CoCs #22 Stunning modern words by Sylvia Dunstan to the French traditional carol tune.*

Lord whose love through humble service [BEACH SPRING or other reflective 87.87D, e.g. SCARLET RIBBONS] *Very much a “sending forth” hymn which does what it says on the tin.*

Jesus the Lord said “I am the bread” [URDU TUNE aka YISU NE KAHA] *Lovely simple communion (or post-communion) hymn, very easy to learn. TiS #239. [Organ demo of the tune](#). Full words.*

We meet as friends at table [MEAL OF LOVE or suitable 76.76D tune, e.g. AURELIA or WOLVERCOTE] *A hymn by Brian Wren about a place of belonging at Christ’s table. Click the “full text” tab for the lyrics.*

Now to your table spread [LOVE UNKNOWN aka "My song is love unknown"] AA #100

I have called you by your name CoCs #636 *Words are on this page, click the pdf symbol which is a link to the music. Lovely song from Dan Damon, easy to learn, and popular.*

I will come to you in the silence (You are mine) *A beautiful contemporary hymn by David Haas (similar in style to "Here I am Lord"). Singalong video, easy to follow, but the melody does need learning properly.*

Who is moving through the silence? Weir/Render AA #157

Will you come and follow me? (The Summons) [KELVINGROVE] *Popular hymn from the Iona Community. CoCs #586, SG #634.*

Jesus calls us here to meet him [LEWIS FOLK MELODY aka GAELIC AIR (TiS #477) aka GAELIC TRADITIONAL MELODY (music: FFS #10(i)) *which is very apt as an opening hymn today. (87.87D). Maybe "Race and gender, class and language..."?*

Loving shepherd of your (thy) sheep [BUCKLAND]

Exalted God, our Shepherd [76.76D, e.g. THORNBURY or WOLVERCOTE] *Narrative hymn about God as Shepherd*

Singing Psalm 23

The Lord's my shepherd [CRIMOND] CoCS #259

The king of love my shepherd is [ST COLUMBA] CoCS #262

[Because the Lord is my shepherd](#) [WALKER] *Attractive song from Christopher Walker. You could listen to this as a meditation before the service, or during communion. It would need confident leadership for the congregation to learn it. "Sing Glory" #513, "As One Voice" #1-66*

Come away from rush and hurry *Marva J. Dawn's hymn can be sung to BEACH SPRING, SCARLET RIBBONS or other reflective 87.87D tune. CoCS #83*

Faithful shepherd, feed me [PASTOR PASTORUM]

The Lord my shepherd rules my life [BROTHER JAMES' AIR]

[Because the Lord is my shepherd](#) [NEW 23rd] *Another lovely meditation!*

The Lord is my shepherd *Keith Green's immortal '70s rock version:*

5th Sunday of Easter (A): “The way, the truth, and the life” & Mother’s Day

It’s NZ Music Month, so you may like to include something Kiwi today. There are also a few suggestions should you wish to recognise “Mothers’ Day”

Featured:

St. Stephen was faithful [LOURDES HYMN] *This text from Paul Wigmore (Jubilate Hymns) is new to me. It is sung to a very simple French folk tune which the congregation may have heard before as it is commonly used in Roman Catholic settings with the refrain “Ave, ave, ave Maria”. Highly recommended for your Gospel hymn, or possibly as a concluding hymn. Good for all-age worship.*

Christ has prepared for us a place [DUNEDIN aka “Where mountains rise” or FULDA aka “We have a Gospel to proclaim” 88.88 LM] *Another modern hymn text from Jubilate, by Christopher Idle. It could be a Recessional hymn. Easy to make the language more inclusive.*

For you are a chosen people / O accept these words that we bring *Two excellent “blast from the past” melodies from kiwi Brent Chambers. Singing these two as a medley provides something of substance for the Offertory, or you could use either one as a Gospel hymn. “Songs of the Kingdom #143 & 128*

Ancient of Days *Vibrant, inclusive language praise song that works well in the early part of the service. Singalong video from the Oslo Gospel Choir. “Sing Glory” #106*

Other hymns and songs for today:

Gather us in (Here in this place) *Marty Haugen’s lively gathering song. Example [performance with words](#). [Lyrics and chords](#). TiS #474, CoCs #72, SG #4*

Christ be my leader by night as by day [SLANE aka “Be thou my vision”] *Simple hymn by Timothy Dudley-Smith about Jesus as way, truth & life, suited as a Gospel (Gradual) hymn*

God is our strength and refuge [DAM BUSTERS MARCH] *Richard Bewes’ setting of Psalm 46*

For I’m building a people of power *“Songs of the Kingdom” #57. Still a blast from the 70s past, despite the dubious use of “For” at the beginning of the lyrics! Too “Lord”-y for some, I’m thinking.*

God builds a house [DUKE STREET] *Permission is given to reproduce this hymn with acknowledgement. So you wanted to find a use for the tune to “Fight the good fight”? This could be it.*

Christ is our cornerstone [DARWALL aka “Ye holy angels bright”] *TiS #433, HFTC #564. The linked modernised text makes all 4 verses usable. Suitable for a Processional hymn.*

I’m a living stone [LANGSTON] *Bluesy call and response song from Colin Gibson. HiOS #70*

This is the truth we hold [LITTLE CORNARD aka “Hills of the north...”] *Excellent concluding or Credal hymn for today, but you will need a [CCLI licence to obtain the words](#), unless you have “Together in Song” (#469)*

Summoned by the God who made us [NETTLETON or other 87.87D tune] *Nettleton is a lively, easy tune to learn and very useful in the repertoire. This instance is a hymn by Dolores Dufner. 1 hymnal omits the verse about “male and female”, but you could sing “Human beings in God’s image, all creation God’s delight.” CoCs #330. Good Offertory hymn*

Hidden Christ, alive for ever [HYFRYDOL or RUSTINGTON: 87.87D] *Superb, poetic text from Brian Wren, suitable as a Processional hymn. You could omit v2 if five verses make the hymn too long.*

Now to your table spread [LOVE UNKNOWN] *Shirley Murray’s excellent communion text. Scroll down for the linked text. AA #100*

Jesus the Lord said “I am the bread” [URDU TUNE aka YISU NE KAHA] *Lovely simple communion (or post-communion) hymn, very easy to learn. TiS #239. [Orqan demo of the tune](#). [Full words](#).*

Jesus touch us [SACRA] *Simple, classic song as a Communion meditation from kiwis Audrey Dickinson & Trevor Cox. Verses could be selected, or you could alternate between choir/group and congregation, for example. HiOS #80*

Christ is alive, let Christians sing [DUNEDIN or TRURO aka “Jesus shall reign...” TiS #387] *Suitable opening hymn during the Easter Season*

Give thanks for life [SINE NOMINE] *Shirley Murray’s revision of “For all the saints”. “And for our own, our living and our dead, thanks for the love by which our life is fed...” AA #45*

For Mothers’ Day:

For the beauty of the earth [DIX] *“For the joy of human love...” Linked text is modernised.*

Loving Spirit [DELL] AA 94(i) *“Like a mother you enfold me...”*

God of Eve and God of Mary [LOVE DIVINE or STUTTGART]

God of Eve and God of Mary,
God of love and mother-earth,
thank you for the ones who with us
shared their life and gave us birth.

As you came to earth in Jesus,
so you come to us today;
you are present in the caring
that prepares us for life’s way.

Thank you that the Church, our Mother,
gives us bread and fills our cup,
and the comfort of the Spirit
warms our hearts and lifts us up.

Thank you for belonging, shelter,

bonds of friendship, ties of blood,
and for those who have no children,
yet are parents under God.

God of Eve and God of Mary,
Christ our Brother, human Son,
Spirit, caring like a Mother,
take our love and make us one!

Words: Fred Pratt Green

Suggested Tunes: LOVE DIVINE or STUTTGART

Jesus put this song into our hearts *Graham Kendrick's Israeli style song – (include new verses such as 'Jesus showed us how we all should love and care', 'Jesus gave us mothers who have cared for us', 'Jesus sends us others who have nurtured us') TiS #670*

6th Sunday of Easter (A): “Promise of the Holy Spirit”

Featured:

Rain down *Easy, uplifting gospel song by Jaime Cortez. Scroll down on [this page for a lead sheet](#) with easy guitar chords. Lyrics in [this document](#). [Recording](#) on YouTube. CoCs #260. CoCs changes “The just and the right” to “The just and unjust” which is much better!*

Shadow and substance *Simple, tuneful modern hymn by Dan Damon that is a perfect fit with the Acts reading.*

Wind upon the waters *Lovely, easy-to-learn song from Marty “Gather us in” Haugen. [Words and an interpretive solo performance video](#).*

Spirit of God (Luce/Latty) *Outstanding contemporary song in a 3-part canon. This song makes a very atmospheric scene-setter even if people just listen, or join in as they are able. You can purchase the resources [on the page](#), but the lead sheet, chord chart and lyrics are freely downloadable.*

More hymns for today:

Sing a new song of glory and salvation [LORD OF THE YEARS or O PERFECT LOVE] *The [words](#) would make a useful Gospel (Gradual) hymn, and the tune Lord of the Years is very strong and well worth learning.*

Spirit of God, you know my inmost being [O PERFECT LOVE] *A personal hymn acknowledging our individual faults. “You know the person Christ would have me be”. [Words](#). Would make an excellent communion hymn*

To Christ who once this supper made [WINCHESTER NEW (88.88)] *A useful communion hymn from Christopher Idle. [Words](#).*

Our chief inspiration, our primary purpose [THE ASH GROVE] *A [hymn](#) worth considering although it will be too prosaic for some, but it is a good fit with the Epistle reading. I have made the tune suggestion above, but this requires omitting v4. If you want to use the suggested tune WAS LEBET (aka “O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness”) please note that the third line of the tune requires you to anticipate the first syllable of the fourth line (i.e. tack the first word of line 4 on to the end of line 3.)*

Come down O Love divine [DOWN AMPNEY]

Through all the changing scenes of life [WILTSHIRE] *[Jubilate version](#) is a helpful revision, but not inclusive language, alas.*

Alleluia, sing to Jesus [HYFRYDOL] *Jubilate Hymns has a [useful modern version](#) of the text.*

We have a gospel to proclaim [FULDA] *Words and downloadable accompaniments on [this page](#). Following HFTC & TiS, the second line needs to read “Good news for all throughout the earth”*

Wisdom far beyond our knowledge [CORONATION ROAD] A grand modern hymn from kiwi writer Colin Gibson which could do with being led by a choir. For those without such a resource another 87.87D tune may suffice: I suggest ABBOT'S LEIGH. HiOS #157

From this holy time [LAUDATE DOMINUM] HiOS #31 Excellent concluding hymn by Marnie Barrell

More songs for today:

As we gather Lively all-age gathering song from Joel Payne/ResoundWorship. Free resources [on this page](#).

The new commandment "The new commandment that I give to you is to love one another as I have loved you... by this all people will know you're my disciples: if you have love one for another" HFTC #S.26

All heaven declares (the glory of the risen Lord) Ideal Gospel (Gradual) worship song. [Words & chords](#). SG #420

Holy Spirit, come This old chorus would make a good, inclusive-language post-communion hymn. "Songs of the nations" #241. Available [on CCLI](#) too.

Join hands in the Spirit A kiwi song by Radha Wardrop that reflects the statement in the Acts reading about us all being "God's offspring". AA #82

Longing for light (Christ be our light) (Farrell) [Singalong video](#). "Praying in Song #242, or you can [buy the score](#). All the [words are on this page](#).

Come all you people Simple gathering song from Zimbabwe, you can try the Shona lyrics or sing three verses "...Come and praise your Maker ...Come and praise the Saviour ...Come and praise the Spirit". [YouTube recording](#) CoCs #84, SG #8

7th Sunday of Easter (A): “Jesus prays for his disciples”

We are many, we are one FFS #67 *Suited to the opening or closing of worship. Words and music. FFS #67 has the introduction and the easy chords.*

When we are living, we are in the Lord [SOMOS DEL SENOR, TiS #778]. *Suited to the gradual hymn*

We are one in the Spirit (They’ll know we are Christians) CoCs #359 *There is a contemporary video version here as a demo – I wouldn’t recommend the video for a church service, though. Snappy new refrain in this version. Suited to post-communion.*

Holy Spirit, go before us [AUSTRIA] *These words from Elizabeth Smith can also be sung to a suitable 87.87D tune such as BEACH SPRING. TiS #420.*

Where mountains rise [DUNEDIN] AA#154 *Very suitable as an opening/processional hymn. Tune can be found at TiS #691*

Blow through the valleys FFS #6 *Bill Bennett’s lively hymn*

Give thanks for life [SINE NOMINE] AA #45 *Suitable offertory or processional*

Bind us together, Lord *Scripture in Song #185*

Christ let us come with you AA #17 *An offertory hymn*

There is a Redeemer *Melody Green’s evergreen worship song. “Sing Glory” #396. Singalong video (instrumental, no voices). Another singalong video (with voices and a very nice key change).*

Sunday after Ascension (A): "You will be my witnesses"

Featured:

Listen to the words (Peace be with you). [Words](#) *Now this is a lovely contemporary worship song from Joel Payne, with free resources, and arrangements you can purchase. Totally inclusive language, too.*

When all is ended [SINE NOMINE aka "For all the saints"]. *I can't think of a more splendid hymn with its Alleluias to conclude the Sundays of Easter. From Brian Wren.*

Christ is ascending *Very singable to MACCABEUS (aka "Thine be the glory").*

Christ is going to the Father *I think ODE TO JOY has the right mood as a tune for this one (or other 87.87D).*

Christ in majesty ascending *David Mowbray's excellent text can (like the following hymn be sung to LAUDA ANIMA aka "Praise, my soul", or perhaps TRIUMPH*

A Hymn for Ascension Wonderful, fresh words from NZ writer Marnie Barrell. Can be sung very appropriately to LAUDA ANIMA aka "Praise, my soul". HiOS #14 Marnie has kindly agreed to let us share the text of her hymn with users of this site.

A Hymn for Ascension

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.

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.

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.

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

Words © Marnie Barrell, used by permission of the author

We praise you God, creator Lord A real gift to those with a group or choir. Alleluias sung to PACHELBEL'S CANON with a simple tune for the congregation (or vice-versa!) Only published in TiS #185 however. *Could be an offertory hymn, or post-communion*

Christ who for our salvation came A lively, fresh text from Derek Baldwin. This can be sung to NOEL (aka "It came upon the midnight clear") or possibly ELLACOMBE. *This would make an excellent Offertory hymn.*

And:

He came singing love AA #59 A *version* of Colin Gibson's well-known song has guitar chords in D major is in NZ it's published in Eb.

God is here as we your people [ABBOT'S LEIGH]. *Good opening hymn. Link provides words and music (note the tab that takes you to copyable text)*

Christ is alive, let Christians sing TRURO (aka "Jesus shall reign") CoCs #473 *Could serve as a closing hymn*

Come down O love divine [DOWN AMPNEY]

You shall go out with joy TiS #755, Songs of the Kingdom #192 *Lively song for the close of worship*

God forgave my sin (Freely, freely) CoCs #627 *(also in Spanish and French, note for Pentecost!)* *Could serve as an offertory hymn. Also #s.12 in HFTC.*

He is exalted / You are exalted "Scripture in Song" #143. *Possible devotional song during communion.*

He is Lord / All heaven declares (the glory of the risen Lord) *If you have the music for these two songs you could bracket them together using a key change (the intervening chord is E7) creating a very effective worship bracket. Words & chords. SG #420. He is Lord: "Scripture in Song" #49.*

Lord enthroned in heavenly splendour [ST HELEN] TiS #520, Sing Glory #52 *Suggest you abbreviate by omitting 3 & 4 OR at least "Though the lowliest form now veils you" if included in your book.*

All hail the power of Jesus name TiS #224, CoCs #105, "Sing Glory" #24

Majesty, worship his majesty *Suited as a Gradual "Songs of the Kingdom" #1*

Meekness and majesty *Possible Offertory hymn "Sing Glory" #395. Smooth-style [singalong video](#)*

All over the world (the Spirit is moving) *"Scripture in Song" #51 Gradual, or post-communion*

Father we love you *"Songs of the Kingdom" #246 Suggest you modernise the words!*

Pass it on (It only takes a spark) *There is a straightforward [Youtube clip here](#).*

The Day of Pentecost (A)

*One aspect of your celebration of Pentecost could be the use of some material that is non-English-language: consider your repertoire – your congregation may be familiar with some Maori hymns and songs; there are Latin chants from Taize, and lively songs from Africa, like **Bambelela**, **Siyahamba** and **Haleluya pelo tsa rona** (Hallelujah we sing your praises) for example.*

Consider also the mix of old and new texts and tunes (some of the languages mentioned in Acts 2 were ancient, indeed extinct at the time), and a variety of musical styles including formal hymns, worship songs, gospel, jazz, and folk. “Listen to the words (Peace be with you)” featured last week (below) is an easy contemporary song – you could even play it as people are sharing the Peace.

Featured:

Give thanks for Whitsun wind and fire *A fine hymn to open or close worship today. It is sung to LASST UNS ERFREUEN aka “All creatures of our God and king”. Almost entirely inclusive language, and if your congregation has no idea what “Whitsun” is, “holy” will work just as well.*

Wind who makes all winds that blow *Thomas Troeger’s vivid lyrics for Pentecost can be sung to ABERYSTWYTH aka “Jesus lover of my soul” or ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR aka “Come you thankful people, come”.*

Spirit of Christ remember me *A simple and beautiful reflective song from Dan Damon. Could be learned before the service, or sung by a small group during communion, the congregation joining in as able. CoCs #221*

The bright wind is blowing [THE BRIGHT WIND OF HEAVEN] *A lovely, flowing folk-style tune, easy to learn with inclusive, evocative lyrics by Cecily Taylor TiS #263. If you want to use the words only, you could (at a pinch) sing this to THE ASH GROVE, using verse 2 as the refrain for verses 1 & 3.*

Peace be with you all we sing *Lovely, easy to learn song with a memorable tune. Words are here. Piano score can be purchased, and you can listen to a church performance. Suited as a gradual or offertory. Also in “Sing Glory” #480(ii). If you want to use the words only you could sing this to BUCKLAND aka “Loving shepherd of thy sheep”.*

Songs:

Spirit of God (Luce/Latty) *Outstanding contemporary song in a 3-part canon. This song makes a very atmospheric scene-setter even if people just listen, or join in as they are able. You can purchase the resources [on the page](#), but the lead sheet, chord chart and lyrics are freely downloadable.*

Spirit, spirit of gentleness *Jim Manley’s song is, sadly, not printed in many collections. However there is a guitar chord chart [on this pdf page](#). If you have a CCLI licence you can find everything [here](#).*

We are one in the Spirit (They'll know we are Christians) CoCs #359 *There is a contemporary [video version here](#) as a demo – I wouldn't recommend the video for a church service, though. Snappy new refrain in this version. Suited to post-communion.*

Breath of the Living God CoCs #43 *Argentinian hymn to an attractive Norwegian tune. [Video demo on piano](#), with the words.*

Rain down *Easy, uplifting gospel song by Jaime Cortez. Scroll down on [this page for a lead sheet](#) with easy guitar chords. [Recording on YouTube](#). CoCs #260. CoCs changes "The just and the right" to "The just and unjust" which is much better!*

Set us free for freedom *Natalie Sims suggests this recent hymn by Shirley Murray. Click the [pdf link](#) for two tunes – Colin Gibson's is a challenging but lively blues.*

Holy Spirit, come "Songs of the Kingdom" #241 *Could be used as a gradual, or post-communion. Available on [CCLI](#) too.*

Blow through the valleys FFS #6 *Bill Bennett's popular kiwi hymn*

Spirit of the Living God HFTC # s.23 & 24

Loving Spirit AA #94 *David Dell's tune is effective.*

Be still for the presence of the Lord *Every resource you could possibly need is [on this page](#)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul (10,000 reasons)

Spirit of God most high HFTC #242 LITTLE CORNARD *A stirring hymn/tune with an excellent match to today's readings. Excellent recessional or possibly gradual. You may need a free membership to Jubilate to access the lyrics*

Come down O Love divine *Works well as an offertory hymn. Link has lyrics and a contemporary recording/tune*

The Spirit came as promised HFTC #244 ELLACOMBE

Wind of God, dynamic Spirit (also HFTC #234) ABBOT'S LEIGH

From the waiting comes the sign *An excellent Invocation Hymn by Colin Gibson & Shirley Murray AA#43*

Breath on me, breath of God TRENTHAM *is a good tune 6.6.8.6 or the familiar CARLISLE*

She sits like a bird brooding on the waters (Enemy of Apathy) [THAINAKY] TIS #418. *Feminine imagery for God, attractive words and tune*

Spirit of holiness, wisdom and faithfulness HFTC #246 BLOW THE WIND SOUTHERLY

God of tempest, God of whirlwind *Set to the stirring CWM RHONDDA this is a hymn with very strong imagery. You could, however use a different tune (as it's quite hard to get the words out with the printed tune). You could sing this to AUSTRIA by repeating – e.g. in verse 1 – “Sweep us into costly service, there with Christ to bear the cross”.*

Additional resources (including liturgy):

Jubilate Hymns have a [Pentecost/Trinity resource page](#). Consider these:

Come down Holy Spirit NOEL NOUVELET

Holy Spirit, heaven's breath *I thought* MONKLAND *would work well*

May we, O holy Spirit *could be sung to* SURSUM CORDA

Trinity Sunday (A): The Most Holy Trinity

If you haven't yet used the ResoundWorship song "[Spirit of God](#)", the threefold form of the song is evocative of the Trinity!

Featured:

[Come you thankful people](#): A lively gathering song from ResoundWorship, which is ideal for today and for all-age worship

[God is one, unique and holy](#) Some fresh imagery from Brian Wren, which can be sung to LAUDA ANIMA ("Praise, my soul") or PICARDY ("Let all mortal flesh") if you want a more reflective tune. Good processional.

Trinitarian hymns:

[I believe in God the Father](#) (Michael Perry) Simple Trinitarian hymn, could be suited to the Gradual slot. 87.87 tune

Father in heaven, grant to your children TiS #465 /WOV #399 to HALAD. It's worth learning this lively, simple hymn

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God almighty NICAEA CoCs #52 and most hymnals.

[God who created light](#) MOSCOW ("Thou/God whose almighty word") Strong Trinitarian imagery here. Could be sung instead of a spoken Affirmation of Faith.

[Sing of a God in majestic divinity](#) WAS LEBET ("Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness") Very striking lyrics from Herbert O'Driscoll, concluding with: Sing of this God who in glory and mystery / chooses to lie in humanity's womb, / enters the prison and pain of our history, / rises triumphant and opens the tomb.

Holy Wisdom, lamp of learning Trinitarian hymn with inclusive language to the lovely BEACH SPRING CoCs #55 TiS #493 [Slightly dodgy video demo with words](#).

Praise with joy the world's Creator LAUDA ANIMA/PRAISE MY SOUL CoCs #57 TiS #179 A Iona Community's inclusive language reworking. [Lyrics can also be found here](#).

Creator God, creating still This hymn by Jane Parker Huber uses language reminiscent of the alternative blessing formula "Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life" (ANZPB/HKMOA p545). [The only online source for the lyrics](#) treats them very sniffily. However, if you're after alternative language for the Trinity these lyrics work well to ST. ANNE (a.k.a. O God our help...)

Maker of mystery FFS #47 Marnie Barrell's lyrical writing can be sung to DOWN AMPNEY (aka "Come Down O Love Divine"). The [words are on this page](#).

O Threefold God of tender unity AA #110 Bill Wallace's hymn can be sung to ELLERS or SURSUM CORDA (Jillian Bray's tune is attractive but challenging for congregations)

Jesus, come to our hearts AA #78 *William Worley's piece is lyrical and easy to learn, almost a cross between a worship song and a hymn.*

Trinitarian songs:

Glorify your name (Father we love you) Songs of the Nations #246 *I suggest you update the language*

Father, we adore you, lay our lives before you SiS #174, HFTC Song #5

Holy holy, Holy holy HFTC Song #14 *Jimmy Owens' evergreen worship song*

We are one in the Spirit (They'll know we are Christians) CoCs #359 *There is a contemporary [video version here](#) as a demo – I wouldn't recommend the video for a church service, though. Snappy new refrain in this version.*

Any of these songs would be suitable during communion

Hymns for the Offertory/Communion today:

[Shout for joy, the Lord has let us feast](#) [LANSDOWNE] *John Bell's rousing hymn may need to be learned, but the tune is not difficult. One of the few Communion hymns with a Trinitarian reference. TiS #545.*

[Let us talents and tongues employ](#) [LINSTEAD] *Tongues are employed at Pentecost, and the lively tune is Jamaican! TiS #537, CoCs #522, HFTC #414*

11th in Ordinary Time (A): "Jesus talks to his disciples"

For the psalm or as an opening song:

Come sing praises to the Lord above TiS #53 sung to CALYPSO CAROL (aka "See him lying...") Lively song for all ages, if you don't mind all that "kingy" language. You will need a free membership at Jubilate to access the lyrics.

God forgave my sin (Freely, freely) The evergreen song from Carol Owens. HFTC #s.12, CoCs #627 [Lyrics](#), with a list of source books. [Rather wooden instrumental](#) video with singalong words. Slightly syrupy [singalong](#), but good quality. [Guitar chords](#) (& that third verse), although I think the refrain is missing a Bm on the second "freely". If you have a CCLI licence the song is [available here](#).

On healing:

We give God thanks for those who knew MELCOMBE HFTC #318.

Jesus hands were kind hands AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE TiS #236 A short and suitable gospel/gradual hymn

We cannot measure how you heal YE BANKS AND BRAES or O WALY WALY (half verses)

Healer of our every ill Marty Haugen's folk-style song CoCs #547. Link is to a congregation singing. I have guitar chords in D.

O Christ the healer we have come ANGELUS CoCs #544 Excellent words from Fred Pratt Green

Praise the One who breaks the darkness Excellent hymn about the ministry of Jesus which could be used anywhere in the service, maybe as a closing. It is worth learning NETTLETON to sing this hymn (easy!) but you could resort to another 87.87D tune.

For communion:

In the singing, in the silence A lovely hymn by Shirley Murray and Carlton R Young. [Lyrics page](#). Also found in FFS #38, CoCs #519

Te Pouhere Sunday (A): “Celebrating our life as a three-Tikanga Church”

Resources are available on the General Synod website <http://www.anglican.org.nz> choose ‘Lectionary’, then ‘Te Pouhere Sunday’ to download a .pdf file

Aotearoa – New Zealand Resources for today:

From *Alleluia Aotearoa*:

#155 Where mountains rise to open skies [DUNEDIN] Shirley Murray’s hymn is probably the pre-eminent one for today! Excellent opening hymn.

#82 Join hands in the Spirit An inter-faith song. Could be sung as a Gradual

#36 Every day I will offer you A very lively hymn from Shirley Murray and Colin Gibson, well worth learning.

#85 Let justice roll down like a river

#8 Brother, sister, let me serve you

#59 He came singing love

#51 God of nations (In English and Te Reo)

#132 Tell my people I love them Excellent closing or recessional song

From *Faith For Ever Singing*:

#6 Blow through the valleys Bill Bennett’s song is ideal for today. Nice harmonization by David Dell

#63 These hills where the hawk flies lonely Popular and very easy to learn, about a just society

#67 We are many, we are one Another lively hymn from Colin Gibson, requires a nimble pianist

#57 Song of faith that sings forever

#13 E Te Ariki (Lord have mercy) The kyries in Te Reo, responsive

From *Hope is Our Song*:

#43 God of our Island Home The refrain alone makes a lovely meditative response to prayer

#31 From this holy time A lovely hymn of sending forth which can be sung to LAUDATE DOMINUM

#23 E Te Ariki, whakarongo mai *Contemporary Maori song*

Some of the above songs and hymns feature on the CDs of the same name.

12th in Ordinary Time (A): “Do not be afraid, you are of more value than many sparrows”

There are also some suggestions for the celebration of Matariki, the Maori New Year, when the Pleiades constellation rises.

How much am I worth? *Great all-age song from Colin Gibson, really easy to learn and excellent for guitar accompaniment HiOS #63, [this link to the text](#) and you can click on the pdf link for the music, but it’s rather high in A maj.*

I heard the voice of Jesus say [KINGSFOLD]

Great is your (thy) faithfulness [FAITHFULNESS] TiS #184 and HFTC #260 *have contemporary words, but it is not hard to change the “thys” to “yours”*

It is God (you) who hold(s) the nations [BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC] *An excellent text by Fred Pratt Green which would make a rousing opening hymn. The first two verses could be modified to “You” for inclusiveness. Also, to use this tune you would need to add a refrain such as “Praise and glory to our Maker, Praise and glory to our Saviour, Praise and glory to the Spirit, may the living God be praised.” Also in SG #304*

Praise with joy the world’s Creator [LAUDA ANIMA aka PRAISE MY SOUL] *The Iona community’s inclusive take on the traditional hymn*

I have decided to follow Jesus [ASSAM] *This Indian song works well when sung slowly as a reflection, for example during Communion. Some versions include a v3 which is “My cross I’ll take up and follow Jesus...”*

To be in your presence *A reflective worship song. SG #523, Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New #694, Complete Mission Praise #951*

Who is my mother? *Shirley Murray’s hymn about belonging to Christ. AA #158 This could be the Offertory hymn today.*

Who would true valour see [MONK’S GATE] *It’s hard to find an inclusive-language version of this hymn by John Bunyan, but “Together in Song” manages it (#561), as does [this version](#) (more first-person)*

When we are living, we are in the Lord [SOMOS DEL SENOR TiS #778]. *Suited to the gradual hymn. There is another version at CoCs #242*

When trouble strikes and fear takes root *An honest hymn from the Iona Community TiS #184. The text is in Long Meter (88.88) so a tune such as ANGELUS or O WALY WALY would suit. There is a downloadable PowerPoint presentation of the lyrics [here](#). (If you don’t have PowerPoint, LibreOffice is a free alternative.)*

God! When human bonds are broken [87.87 tune] *This hymn by Fred Kaan can be sung to CROSS OF JESUS. The words are also found in TiS #683*

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered *This striking hymn by Dietrich Bonhoeffer can be sung to O PERFECT LOVE but it would also be effective to FINLANDIA if you repeat the latter two lines of each verse.*

Longing for light (Christ be our light) (Farrell) *Singalong video. "Praying in Song #242, or you can buy the score. All the words are on this page. This was a suggestion for 6th of Easter, so you may not wish to use it again so soon!*

What a friend we have in Jesus [CONVERSE] *Published in 1448 hymnbooks!*

Now let us from this table rise [NIAGARA] *This is an 88.88 tune, so if your congregation doesn't know NIAGARA you could try WAREHAM*

Matariki with New Zealand music

There are a number of "Alleluia Aotearoa" acclamations in AA which could be used in conjunction with the Gospel reading

E te Atua aroha mai [KUMBAYA] *Very simple invocation in Te Reo AA #31*

E te Ariki, he ataahua koe *A Maori interpretation of the worship song "Jesus how lovely you are" which includes the line "Tiaho mai, te whetu marama (Shine forth, bright star)". Apt! AA #30*

Where mountains rise to open skies [DUNEDIN] *"In water's light, in lake and star". AA #155*

God of our island home [ISLAND HOME] *Chris Skinner's lovely meditative song could be sung during Communion. You could just sing the first verse without the refrain. HiOS #43*

These hills where the hawk flies lonely [KAIKOURA] FFS #63

[Beneath the Southern Cross](#) *Malcolm Gordon's stirring song is published in his book "Songs for the Saints" with a CD included.*

13th in Ordinary Time (A): “Eternal life in Christ Jesus”

Today is also Refugee Sunday, and some selections for that are included below:

Refugee Sunday:

Five hymns with words by Shirley Murray

Here to the house of God we come [KHAO I DANG] AA #61 *Easy tune by Colin Gibson, watch out for the long note!*

God of freedom, God of justice [PICARDY] AA #50 *The familiar French tune works well.*

*Another excellent hymn for today with PICARDY is **When our world is rent by violence** by David Bjorlin*

I am standing waiting [AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE] FFS #34

Just as the rainbow [COLORS OF HOPE] *An attractive easy tune by Dan Damon. Words.*

In what strange land [MYSTERIUM] HiOS #77 *Colin Gibson’s tune has resonances of the theme from “Exodus” – moving and easy to learn*

Hymns and songs for today’s readings:

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered *This striking hymn by Dietrich Bonhoeffer can be sung to O PERFECT LOVE but it would also be effective to FINLANDIA if you repeat the latter two lines of each verse.*

The God of Abraham praise [LEONI] TiS #125, HFTC #9 *You may wish to select verses, and in the linked version I would consider “We” instead of “I”*

How long O Lord will you forget [HOW LONG] *This hymn can be found in CoCS #201 and Sing Glory #651. Lovely jazz chords in the tune by Christopher Norton, but easy to sing. Based on Psalm 13.*

[Come now O Prince of Peace](#) [OSOSO] *A wonderful, simple Korean hymn which springs from the desire for unity (reunification). CoCs #225, Sing Glory #586. Works well sung between intercessions, but would also suit as a gradual hymn. Sing Glory #586, CoCs #225. Music and words here. (Choose “Save image as...”)*

Take my life and let it be [NOTTINGHAM]

Every day (I will offer you) [LYNNEFRITH] AA #36

Amazing grace [NEW BRITAIN] *That’s the name for the familiar tune!*

And now O Father, mindful of the love [UNDE ET MEMORES]

God forgave my sin (Freely, freely) *The evergreen song from Carol Owens. HFTC #s.12, CoCs #627 [Lyrics](#), with a list of source books [Rather wooden instrumental](#) video with singalong words. Slightly syrupy [singalong](#), but good quality. [Guitar chords](#) (& that third verse), although I think the refrain is missing a Bm on the second “freely”. If you have a CCLI licence the song is [available here](#).*

Brother sister, let me serve you [SERVANT SONG] AA #8 and [34 other books](#)

Kneels at the feet of his friends [CHEREPONI] TiS #640, [_Music here, with easy guitar chords](#) (Capo 1). Click “full text” for the words.

Here in this place [GATHER US IN] [Melody line and chords](#). TiS #474 *and these other books*

O welcome all you noble saints of old *Robert Stamps’ song would be an evergreen from 1972 apart from the exclusive language. There are various solutions to this (last line of the refrain): “In Christ there is a table set for all” or “Jesus sets a table for us all” or “God has set...” Like me, you may not be that keen on the “harlots” usage. I can imagine singing “All the once excluded gather here, all who seek forgiveness now draw near, wayward sons and daughters need not fear...” . The verse that begins “Worship in the presence of the Lord...” is probably enough making a total of 5 verses. Songs of the Kingdom #142*

14th in Ordinary Time (A): “My yoke is easy, and my burden is light”

Suggestions for Sea Sunday may be found [on this page](#).

[One more step along the world I go](#) (for all age services)

[Will you come and follow me?](#) (The Summons)[KELVINGROVE] *The undotted (straight quaver) version of this tune is better, I think (as in the video). Lyrics. CoCs #586, Sing Glory #634 and these other collections. Music and lyrics on this page. Also with chords here.*

Make me a channel of your peace *found in these hymn collections.*

Three things I promise A beautiful new tune but you could sing it to [WAREHAM]

[Come as you are, that’s how I want you](#) The lyrics are on this page.
Unfortunately this is only available in “Together in Song” #693

Comfort, comfort all my people *You can learn the tune here. TiS #647 Australian song really worth learning for this context, and for Advent*

Jesus Christ is waiting [NOEL NOUVELET aka Now the green blade rises] *words and music here (along with many other hymns). Sheet music, click “page 122” for the rest.*

What a friend we have in Jesus [CONVERSE] *Music, lyrics and chords.*

Great is thy (your) faithfulness *Hymns for Today’s Church (#260) has a modernized version of the lyrics, and “Voices United” suggests “...God our Creator”. Otherwise the traditional version is on this page, (with easy chords). Click “Page 302” for the rest.*

[I heard the voice of Jesus say](#) [KINGSFOLD] *Classic hymn to a lovely folk tune (music). A good (less sentimental) revision of the second line is in CoCs #31: “I bring good tidings of release to you who are oppressed”. TiS #585 has modernized words.*

Who is moving through the silence? AA #157, also recorded by the Festival Singers on their album “Tell my people”

Jesus comes to me as a springtime tree (Sacrament of the Seasons) *Joy Cowley’s poem set to my tune, “JOY”. AA #77. Words are on this page. Also found on the “Alleluia Aotearoa” CD. “Gentle the cross and gentle the snow, gentle the path where he and I go”.*

Come and find the quiet centre FFS #10(i) LEWIS FOLK MELODY aka GAELIC AIR (TiS #477) aka GAELIC TRADITIONAL MELODY. *Can also be sung to BEACH SPRING*

O my Saviour, lifted from the earth for me [NORTH COATES] *It is a simple matter to change all the “thy”s to “your”*

Beauty for brokenness (God of the poor) *TiS #690, CoCs #302 Choral version with words [Solo version](#) with words and video, good for reflection.*

Koutou katoa ra mea iti nei “With One Voice” #659

Tama ngakau marie AA #128, with translation (not for singing). This could be sung during communion.

The Kingdom is within you AA #137 Cecily Sheehy’s lively blues-style song makes a good Gospel hymn.

[Come to the banquet](#) would be a lively song for the Offertory today:

15th in Ordinary Time (A): “The parable of the sower”

For material suited to the Romans reading, consider the selections for the Day of Pentecost

God has spoken to his people [SONG OF GOOD NEWS] (W. Jabusch) *TiS #636*

Try a more inclusive version: Change “He who has ears... to They who have ears (and so on) and this refrain: God has spoken to the people, alleluia, spoken words of holy wisdom, alleluia.

Sent forth by God’s blessing [THE ASH GROVE] *TiS #531 is an inclusive language version.*

There is also an almost entirely inclusive version [on this page](#). Great concluding hymn. Scroll down for all hymnbooks which feature this hymn.

Lord of creation, to you be all praise [SLANE aka “Be Thou My Vision”] *TiS #626*

Lord your word shall guide us (Lord thy word abideth) [RAVENSHAW] *Helpfully modernized lyrics here and HFTC #251. Alternative modernized words in TiS #427*

The kingdom is within you AA #137 *Cecily Sheehy’s lively blues-style song is easy and fun*

Here in this place [GATHER US IN] *Melody line and chords. TiS #474 and these other books*

Let us talents and tongues employ [LINSTEAD] *The lively tune is Jamaican TiS #537, CoCs #522, HFTC #414. Full music and chords in Cmaj. Found in these hymnbooks*

This is a day of new beginnings [BEGINNINGS] *A fine hymn by Brian Wren and Carlton R. Young, easy to learn. Good communion hymn when you use the alternate last verse: “In faith we’ll gather round the table to taste and share what love can do...” CoCs #495, TiS #653, words [on this page](#), [click the pdf link for the music](#).*

Speak O Lord *Soaring contemporary worship song about hearing God’s word, well worth adding to your repertoire. Lots of sample resources [on this page](#) if you click about. Singalong video. CoCs #66*

Praise and thanksgiving, Father we offer [BUNESSAN aka “Morning has broken”. *TiS #627 and these hymnals. I imagine singing “Praise and thanksgiving we come to offer”, and in v2 “So bless the labour...” and v3 “Ever providing...” , “Sister and brother...”*

Our life has its seasons [KOTUKU] AA #113. *Lively song from Shirley Murray and Colin Gibson. Musicians should watch out for the 3/4 bar.*

Where shall be found? [PEACETREE] *HiOS #151 Lovely anthemic hymn about planting peace from Colin Gibson, very easy to learn, with guitar chords for the first fret.*

[Unless a grain of wheat](#) (Bernadette Farrell) *Words and resources [on this page](#). “As One Voice” #1-35*

16th in Ordinary Time (A): “Weeds among wheat”

Featured hymn:

The sun went down on Jacob’s grief *A narrative hymn about the first Testament reading, by Christopher Idle. Lively folk tunes include STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN* (aka “My soul cries out”) or THE FLIGHT OF THE EARLS, or you could use something well-known like KINGSFOLD*
**Click the link to page 79 for the rest of the score*

The reign of God like farmer’s field *The text is [here](#) but you need to click “Show more” An appropriate tune is BROTHER JAMES’ AIR, repeating the last two lines of each verse, or ST. ANNE aka “O God our help in ages past”. This would make an excellent Gradual (Sequence) hymn. This version of ST ANNE has guitar chords.*

God the sculptor of the mountains [MANNHEIM aka “Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us”].

[The Lord is my light, my light and salvation](#) *Music for this round (Taize)*

Touch the earth lightly [TENDERNESS] *A hymn about stewardship of creation, found in AA #143 and the [words are here](#).*

Maker of mystery [DOWN AMPNEY aka “Come down O Love divine”] *Marnie Barrell’s words explore metaphors of growth in Christ. Scroll down [on this page](#) for the words. FFS #47*

Beauty for brokenness (God of the poor) *TiS #690, CoCs #302 Choral version with [words Solo version](#) with words and video, good for reflection A Graham Kendrick song, about the fragility of people and creation*

God of the Bible *FFS #25 . Easy to learn song about the work of the Gospel (Murray/Gibson)*

Loving Spirit *As found in AA #94, relevant to the Romans reading. I like the David Dell tune. [Words are here](#)*

[O God, you search me and you know me](#) *Sing Glory #514, [Words here](#). Sample sheet music, available for purchase from OCP. A popular hymn by Bernadette Farrell – relates to the Psalm and Romans reading.*

Lord (or God) of creation, to you be all praise *The text is [here](#). May be sung to SLANE (aka “Be Thou My Vision”). (Make sure you pick the right version of the tune to fit the words!)*

For the fruits of all creation *Ideal offertory hymn, relates to the Gospel. Suggested tune: AR HYD Y NOS (All Through The Night). [This video](#) has inclusive lyrics, too*

The kingdom is within you *AA #137 Cecily Sheehy’s lively blues-style song in E maj (Easy chords for guitar). Could be used as a Gradual. This was suggested for last week, so if you learned it then you could sing it again for reinforcement*

Holy Spirit ever dwelling *The text is [here](#). An attractive 8.7.8.7D tune is NETTLETON*

Praise the Spirit in creation *This is a much more inclusive-language hymn than “Praise my soul” but is sung to that tune. The text is [here](#)*

Loving Creator, grant to your children [HALAD] (originally: Father in heaven, grant...) *Lively Filipino tune with guitar chords [on this page](#). Words are [on this page](#).*

Some of last week’s suggestions may also be suitable

17th in Ordinary Time (A): “Parables of the kingdom’s growth”

Some of last week’s choices might be suitable, too.

The gospel lection concludes with the reference to treasures old and new – so it’s a good day to sing the old and the new!

Holy Spirit, come confirm us [CROSS OF JESUS, or other 8.7.8.7 tune] *A trinitarian hymn relating to the Epistle reading (could suit as a gradual/sequence hymn). The text is on this page.*

What riches on this earth can buy one human breath? [FRANCONIA aka “Blest are the pure in heart”] *Short psalm-based hymn suitable as a Gradual (Sequence) hymn. Paul Wigmore’s text is not fully inclusive, but words such as “yours”, “whose” and “this” may appeal to creative types.*

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy [ABBOT’S LEIGH aka “Glorious things...] *Colin Gibson’s There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, is an adaptation of the original. HiOS #135. Could be an opening hymn.*

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There's no place where human sorrows
are more deeply felt than heaven;
there's no place where human failings
have such kindly judgments given.

For the love of God is broader
than the measures of our mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make that love too narrow
by the limits of our own;
and we magnify God's strictness
with a zeal Love will not own.

There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that endless world of bliss.
If our love were but more simple,
we would trust the living Word;
and our lives would fill with gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

F W Faber, adapted by Colin Gibson.

The kingdom of God is justice and joy [HANOVER, aka “O worship the King all glorious above”] HFTC #333

Born by the Holy Spirit’s breath [FULDA] *Paraphrase from Romans 8 by Timothy Dudley-Smith, in HFTC #225, using the suggested alternative tune, which is often sung with the words “We have a gospel to proclaim” Text also [here](#)*

Bless the Lord, O my soul (10,000 reasons) *This contemporary song by Matt Redman would make an excellent response to the Epistle reading.*

God has spoken to the (his) people, alleluia (spoken words of holy wisdom, alleluia)

Seek ye first the kingdom of God *An updated-language version of this text could be: “First set your mind on the reign of our God, and on righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you...
“You shall not live by bread alone...”*

I am the vine *Shirley Murray’s text to my Israeli-style tune, ESKDALE. FFS #35*

When our Lord walked the earth [[PERSONENT HODIE](#) *note: different, Christmas words*] *Powerful writing from the Iona Community. Text is [here](#) . If your congregation doesn’t know PERSONENT HODIE (Hymns for Today’s Church #311) it is well worth learning for these words, which could be used often. Gustav Holst’s striking arrangement isn’t easy, but the tune is! A cracker.*

Amazing grace [NEW BRITAIN] or [Amazing grace /my chains are gone](#) (see video below)

E te Atua kua ruia nei [NEW BRITAIN *the traditional tune for “Amazing Grace”*] or FOR ALL THY MERCIES. *This text is only published in “With One Voice NZ Supplement” #650, (with an English version not for singing).*

As trees from tiny seeds can grow *Attractive contemporary lyrics from Jane Parker Huber: [here](#) (Click on the indexed hymn). The English folk tune O WALY WALY would suit, or other LM (88.88) tune.*

God speed you on your way [STAFFORD] *A farewell song from Shirley Murray and Shona Murray FFS #29*

Blow through the valleys [RUAHINE] *Bill Bennett’s lively and easy-to-learn song speaks of how the world “thinks it can buy all the treasures we need”, so this would be a good one to use before the Gospel reading FFS #6*

18th in Ordinary Time (A): Transfiguration OR Feeding the Five Thousand

See below for the selections related to the Feeding of the Five Thousand (Men)

Hymns and songs related to Transfiguration

Transform us as you transfigured Scroll down the page for the lyrics, which can be sung to PICARDY

Jesus Son of God and Mary [PICARDY or MANNHEIM (aka “Lead us heavenly Father...”)
Narrative hymn framed around mountain/hill experiences of Jesus

You Lord are both Lamb and Shepherd PICARDY CoCs #22 Scroll down this page for these outstanding lyrics by Sylvia Dunstan

Christ upon the mountain peak ST. ALBINUS HFTC #115

Our Saviour Christ once knelt in prayer [MELITA aka “Eternal Father strong to save”] HFTC #116

When Jesus led his chosen three another hymn you can sing to MELITA Useful words but a bit exclusive. I imagine singing (V.1) “to humankind a glimpse...” and (V.2) “life restored”. Note the misprint in V.3 also

My Lord you wore no royal crown [O WALY WALY] HFTC #118

You are the king of glory, you are the Prince of Peace (Songs of the Kingdom #118)

Jesus, take us to the mountain Really good words, but the only tune most will know that fits is IRBY (“Once in royal...”). However, it does work.

How good, Lord, to be here CARLISLE, TiS #234

Lord the light of your love [SHINE JESUS SHINE] if your congregation uses this song

Feeding of the 5000 (men)

Feed us now, bread of life This is a charming, reflective communion hymn from Australia’s Robin Mann. Text and recorded accompaniment are [here](#). If you have an internet connection at church (or someone with mobile data), just plug your device into the sound system and play the audio on the webpage for people to learn. Always learn new music before the service begins! Music is in “Together in Song” #538

All my hope on God is founded [MICHAEL] A suitable gradual/sequence hymn relating to the Epistle.

Let us break bread together [BREAD TOGETHER] This should be sung slowly and meditatively, before or during Communion

Break now (Thou) the bread of life [BREAD OF LIFE] *Suitable if you want a traditional choice. I like this more modern version of the words.*

Here is bread, here is wine (Kendrick) *I find "feast on Jesus" kinda weird and imagine instead "feast with Jesus", but otherwise an excellent communion song*

Christ be our light (Farrell) *Don't know this yet? Suggest you learn and use it ASAP. Everyone seems to love this song. Listen to it here, along with the words. The version at the bottom of the page sounds better.*

I come with joy (to meet my Lord) **a child of God** (Wren) [UNIVERSITY] *Suitable offertory hymn. HFTC #408*

For the bread and wine and blessing [BREAD AND WINE] *A NZ hymn as found in Alleluia Aotearoa – attractive tune by Guy Jansen, words, Shirley Murray. AA #39*

In the singing, in the silence *Another of Shirley's communion hymns, this time in "Faith Forever Singing" FFS #38*

Put peace into each other's hands (Kaan) [ST. COLUMBA] *Attractive offertory hymn, or sung at the Peace.*

19th in Ordinary Time (A): “Truly you are God’s son”

Featured song:

Wind upon the waters Another excellent song from Marty “Gather us in” Haugen, *performed by a choir here*. The lyrics are *here*, with a solo performance: words could be read as a poem. CoCs #49. Sheet music *on this page*, and click for p.490. Well worth learning the easy tune.

Featured hymn:

You walk along our shoreline [AURELIA aka “The Church’s One Foundation”, or other 76.76D)] Another of Sylvia Dunstan’s excellent hymn texts. This one could work as a closing hymn. Tangential to today’s Gospel reading, but says in part: “And if you still will follow through storm and wave and shoal, then I will make you fishers, but of the human soul.” Words (and music, in this case SALLEY GARDENS)

God when human bonds are broken [LOVE DIVINE or other 87.87 tune] A hymn from Fred Kaan about broken relationships (cf. first reading)

Christ be my leader by night as by day [SLANE], suitable as a Gradual, or post-sermon

Sent by the Lord am I (Sent out in Jesus’ name) Lively Latin-American short song, very easy to learn. There’s an *inclusive language version of the words here*. Note that the first 4 lines are repeated.

Come and find the quiet centre [LEWIS FOLK MELODY (with chords) aka GAELIC AIR (TIS #477) aka GAELIC TRADITIONAL MELODY (FFS #10(i) or BEACH SPRING] Shirley Murray’s hymn about centering prayer. FFS #10

He came singing love [SINGING LOVE] Colin Gibson’s widely known song. AA #59. Words are *on this page*

I have called you by your name CoCs #636 *Words are on this page*, click the pdf symbol which is a link to the music. Lovely song from Dan Damon

[You are the king of glory](#) (Mavis Ford) “Songs of the Kingdom” #118

How lovely on the mountains (Barlotti) Words and chords

Who is this Jesus whose voice we have heard? [SLANE aka “Be thou my vision...”] Excellent writing from Dolores Dufner, but only found in “Community of Christ Sings” #38 unfortunately.

Wind upon the waters Another excellent song from Marty “Gather us in” Haugen, *performed by a choir here*. The lyrics are *here*, with a solo performance: words could be read as a poem. CoCs #49. Sheet music *on this page*, and click for p.490. Well worth learning the easy tune.

As we gather at your table Can be sung to NETTLETON, BEACH SPRING or other 87.87D A good choice for an Offertory hymn today

Will you come and follow me? (The Summons) [KELVINGROVE] Good to conclude with. CoCs #586. Accompaniment [on this page](#). Scroll down [on this page for the 32 instances in hymnals](#).

I The Lord of sea and sky (Here I am Lord) fits well with the Epistle reading today. Scroll down [on this page](#) for all the hymnal incidences. CoCs #640, TiS #658, SG #633. [This singalong video](#) is in the contemporary worship style. Watch out for the bridge which is not part of the original song. [This video version](#) is in a folk style (no lyrics)

Christ be our light (Longing for light) (Farrell) [Singalong video](#). "Praying in Song #242, or you can [buy the score](#). All the [words are on this page](#).

Go forth and tell, O Church of God awake! [WOODLANDS aka "Tell out my soul..."] A powerful but not inclusive text. You would certainly want "humankind" instead of "all mankind" and I imagine several other "invisible mends"! Excellent recessional, though.

20th in Ordinary Time (A): “Jesus and the Canaanite woman”

Featured:

Let us build a house (Marty Haugen) *You can sing along to this Youtube clip. If the song is unfamiliar, listen to the first solo verse before joining in. The sheet music (with words) is here – click for p.293 for the balance. CoCs #276 “All are welcome in this place.” Easy, lively.*

For the Isaiah 56 reading:

God of freedom, God of justice [PICARDY] (AA #50 or #TIS 657) *Shirley Murray’s powerful text seeking healing for a violent world. Words.*

Beauty for brokenness (Kendrick) TiS #690, Sing Glory #263, CoCs #302. *Formal-style version with lyrics. The writer’s own recording. And the same again with lyrics and video. Separate lyrics.*

The love of God is broad like beach and mountain [FINLANDIA] *“With One Voice #667”. This hymn by Anders Frostensen, translated from the Swedish, is set to an original tune in the above hymnbook, but is ideal to FINLANDIA. You can find an inclusive-language version of the text here (“Your love, O God, is broad...”).*

For the Psalm:

How good a thing it is [FRANCONIA, aka “Blest are the pure in heart”] *A useful paraphrase by James Seddon enabling you to sing this short psalm.*

For the Gospel:

Healer of our every ill *Marty Haugen’s folk-style song CoCs #547. Link is to a congregation singing. I have guitar chords in D.*

Who is my mother? (Murray/Render) AA #158 *“All those who gather round Jesus Christ”*

Now to your table spread [LOVE UNKNOWN] AA #100 . *Communion hymn by Shirley Murray.*

This is a day of new beginnings [BEGINNINGS] TIS #653 . *Words and music. Note there is an alternative 4th verse for Holy Communion. Definitely worth learning.*

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy [CROSS OF JESUS (half-verses) or ABBOT’S LEIGH 87.87D] *Colin Gibson’s revision is helpful. HIOS #135*

We cannot measure how you heal [YE BANKS AND BRAES] (Iona Community). *Words and music, click for p.141 for the balance.*

She came to Jesus [SLANE aka “Be thou my vision”] (Carolyn Winfrey Gillette) *This would make a suitable Gospel (Sequence, Gradual) hymn. Carolyn is generous with her hymns: you should seek her permission to reprint.*

Here is bread, here is wine (Kendrick) *I prefer "... Jesus' feast is here". Linked video is a rather "purple" version of quite a straightforward communion song.*

Why not a rousing song that includes the words "Jesus taught us how to be family" to close your service:

Jesus put this song into our hearts (Kendrick) *TiS #670, "Songs of the Nations" #569 or perhaps...*

We are many, we are one [HAMILTON] (Gibson) *FFS #67*

21st in Ordinary Time (A): “Who do you say that I am?”

A mother lined a basket [ELLACOMBE or WOLVERCOTE 76.76D] *Hymn that affirms mothers in the story of God’s people*

Isaiah 51: 1-6

From you all skill and science flow [WILTSHIRE aka “Through all the changing scenes”] *A short hymn about the renewal of creation, suitable for the Gradual (Sequence)*

Romans 12:1-8

Take my life and let it be [NOTTINGHAM] *Modernized words*

Matthew 16:13-20

O Lord who by your lakeside word [MELITA aka “Eternal Father, strong to save...”] *A really good narrative hymn! I’d prefer “headstrong” to “passionate” simply because it scans better!*

You Lord are both Lamb and Shepherd [PICARDY] *CoCs #22 Scroll down this page for these outstanding lyrics by Sylvia Dunstan*

For the psalm:

Had not the LORD let Israel say [DUNEDIN aka “Where mountains rise” or FULDA aka “We have a Gospel to proclaim”: 88.88] *A paraphrase hymn that needs a strong tune. I imagine singing “mortals” for “men who”.*

Now Israel may say [OLD 124th] *TiS #79 is a slightly modernized (more inclusive) version, otherwise this hymn’s language is probably too obscure for today’s congregations*

Some hymns from “Together in Song” to well-known tunes:

Here, Lord, we take the broken bread [DOMINUS REGIT ME] *TiS #523, also HFTC #404. Short hymn which could be sung as Communion concludes*

This is the truth we hold [LITTLE CORNARD] (Useful as a credal hymn instead of a said Affirmation of Faith) *TiS #469 available if you have CCLI*

God is our song and every singer blest [SURSUM CORDA] *TiS #646. The lyrics are on this page, use the right arrow button on your keyboard to advance. Note this version has a tune that repeats the last line of each verse, not needed if you use SURSUM CORDA*

Sing of the Lord’s goodness [THE LORD’S GOODNESS] *Lively 5/4 time for confident congregations! TiS #183. Exclusive God-language unfortunately, but some might attempt seamless mending by beginning with changing “his” to “your” – but lots of other mods would be required, so that it would end up being something quite other than the original!*

At the name of Jesus [CAMBERWELL] *Strongly advise that you sing only the 4 verses listed in TiS (with vigour!) TiS #231. These are verses 1,3,5 & 6 of the original, as suggested in the graphic. Any more becomes tedious*

Christ is the world’s true light [NUN DANKET] *TiS #238, or available here if you have CCLI.*

Worship songs:

He is Lord/You are Lord: Maori lyrics can also be used: *Te Ariki, Te Ariki, kua ara mai nei koe i te mate. Koropikoria, whakaakungia, ko Ihu Te Ariki.*

Jesus is Lord, creation's voice proclaims it. *Lyrics (not set out correctly). HFTC s.#17, "Songs of the Kingdom" #155*

We are one in the bond of love *(for the Romans reading). SiS "Songs of Praise" #134*

Some New Zealand hymns and songs:

We are many, we are one [HAMILTON] (Gibson) FFS #67

Maker of mystery [DOWN AMPNEY] FFS #47 Marnie Barrell's fine hymn

Jesus comes to me as a springtime tree AA #77 *Lovely lyrics by Joy Cowley, music by yours truly*

Take my gifts and let me love you *Suits the Romans reading AA #127 Murray/Gibson*

Where the road runs out AA #156 Gibson. *A hymn about the journey of discipleship*

22nd in Ordinary Time (A): “Take up your cross”

Exodus 3:1-15

Be still for the presence of the Lord *Every resource you could possibly need is [on this page](#)*

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Hosea ([Come back to me](#)). *Sample accompaniment. [Singalong video](#) of this lovely song*

Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

Sing praise to God who has shaped and sustains all creation [LOBE DEN HERRN aka “Praise to the Lord, the almighty”.] *This is an inclusive-language paraphrase, ready to use straight out of the box. [On this Youtube page](#) click “More” for the lyrics.*

Romans 12:9-21

As sons of the day and daughters of light [LAUDATE DOMINUM aka “O praise ye the Lord / Sing praise to the Lord”] *Perhaps a Gospel hymn.*

Matthew 16:21-28

O Christ who by a cross made peace your sign [SURSUM CORDA] AA #105

Christ is all the world’s good news *This evangelistic hymn has quite striking words in relation to the Gospel, however, I can’t find a 7775 tune that works. So if you like this text, you could modify the last line of each verse by addition: “Turn (and turning) come to him”. Thus this hymn can be sung to HEINLEIN aka “Forty days,…” This works for all the verses except “all may come” which could be “everyone may come”, and the very last line, which could be the same as the end of verse 1. You could also shorten this 7-verse hymn.*

Christ has called us to new visions: *A hymn suited to the Romans reading in particular, by Jane Parker Huber can be sung to the very attractive (and easy) American tune NETTLETON or other 8.7.8.7D tune. CoCs #566 or if you have [CCLI find the words here](#).*

Christ the Lord who calls us *This would make an excellent Offertory hymn today. It can be sung to AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE for a meditative style, or CAMBERWELL aka “At the name of Jesus” for a more vigorous tune. If 5 verses seems too many, omit v.4*

When I survey the wondrous cross (TiS #342)

Lift high the cross *If you wish to avoid militaristic imagery, Shirley Murray’s version in “Alleluia Aotearoa” is commended*

If we have died to ourselves in Jesus (Marty Haugen) (TiS #475) *The refrain would make a perfect Gospel acclamation today*

More contemporary songs:

When we are living, we are in the Lord . *The attractive and simple Mexican melody is found in TiS #778*

I have decided to follow Jesus *to be effective, this song needs to be slow and reflective in style, not bouncy*

Unless a grain of wheat (Bernadette Farrell)

This is my body, broken for you (Jimmy Owens, additional verses by Damian Lundy)
recommended [here](#)

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets (Bell, Maule) [NOEL NOUVELET]

Brother, sister, let me serve you (Gillard) [THE SERVANT SONG]

Lord make me like you (Jimmy and Carol Owens) *Songs of the Kingdom #76*

23rd in Ordinary Time (A): “Love is the fulfilling of the Law”

Exodus 12:1-14

Sing an Agnus Dei that you know, or during communion you could play a recording of Blake’s “[The Lamb](#)” (John Tavener) which should surely stir the hardest heart

Ezekiel 33: 7-11

Restless souls, why do you scatter [CROSS OF JESUS]. *This modernized version is useful. Sometimes this hymn begins at v2: “There’s a wideness in God’s mercy” but v.1 is pertinent here*

Psalm 149

Bring to the Lord a glad new song [JERUSALEM] *A grand opening hymn*

Romans 13: 8-14

Kneels at the feet of his friends (Yesu, Yesu, fill us with your love)

Matthew 18:15-20

Gentle God, when we are driven (past the limits of our love) AA #44

Featured hymn texts this week:

God when human bonds are broken & Help us accept each other (both by Fred Kaan)
The first can be sung to LOVE DIVINE or CROSS OF JESUS and the second to WOLVERCOTE, PASSION CHORALE or other 8.7.8.7. D

God when human bonds may be found here

[Help us accept each other](#)

Another superb text is “[O Day of Peace](#)” which was written by Carl P Daw Jr to be sung to JERUSALEM and to stand in contrast to the imagery of Blake.

Some well-known possibilities:

Make me a channel of your peace *Lyrics of the last verse are usually modified to read “In giving of ourselves that we receive.”* TiS #607 and [in these books](#) (scroll right down)

The new commandment that I give to you (A New Commandment) *“The new commandment that I give to you is to love one another as I have loved you... by this all people will know you’re my disciples, if you have love...”* .

Ubi Caritas *Music, lyrics and chords*

We are one in the bond of love *Scripture in Song #134*

We are one in the Spirit (They’ll know we are Christians) CoCs #359 *There is a contemporary [video version here](#) as a demo – I wouldn’t recommend the video for a church service, though. Snappy new refrain in this version.*

For the beauty of the earth [DIX] *All the resources [are on this page](#), scroll right down for clickable music.*

O God beyond all praising sung to THAXTED aka “*I vow to thee my country*” is a grand opening hymn

Bring forth the kingdom (You are salt for the earth, o people). *A lively song by Marty Haugen. [Text and chords](#) but don't copy this rendition! The correct feel (although a bit fast!) is [here on YouTube](#)*

Christ's is the world in which we move (which is sung to DREAM ANGUS) *A reflective song from the Iona Community. A performance starting at 3:30 is [here](#)*

A lively gradual from Aotearoa:

I love this family of God / E aroha ana ahau (*Sir Kingi Ihaka*)

I love this family of God, so closely knitted into one.

They've taken me into their hearts, and I'm so glad to be a part of this great family. (*Translation, also to be sung:*)

E aroha ana ahau, ki tenei whanau a te Atua.

He whanau kotahi tenei, Taku koa ko au tetahi,

o tenei whanau.

(Repeat)

From “Alleluia Aotearoa”:

Who is my mother, who is my brother? [BRONWEN] AA #158

Give thanks for life [SINE NOMINE] AA #45

Loving Spirit (David Dell's tune) AA #94(i)

He Came Singing Love [SINGING LOVE] AA #59

From “Hope is our Song”:

From this holy time an excellent recessional text from Marnie Barrell, very effective sung to LAUDATE DOMINUM HiOS #31

24th in Ordinary Time (A): “How often should I forgive?”

Exodus 14:19-31

Oh Mary, don't you weep (As performed – electrifyingly – by Take 6)

Genesis 50:15-21

Silent the earth when God arose [GERONTIUS aka “Praise to the holiest in the height”]

Psalms 114

When Israel broke their cruel chains [ABRIDGE, or other suitable 86.86 (CM) tune]

Romans 14: 1-12

Come praise the name of Jesus [MORNING LIGHT aka “Stand up, stand up for Jesus] *Good words for this passage, but not at all inclusive, however I can imagine beginning “We come to praise you Jesus” and then the rest falls into place.*

Matthew 18:21-35

What if my brothers wrong me Lord (or sisters cause me pain?) [HORSLEY aka “There is a green hill...] or other 86.86 (CM) tune.

Featured hymn text this week:

As we gather at your table by Carl P. Daw Jr – *very apt communion hymn for this week. Beautiful match with the lovely American tune BEACH SPRING (87.87D) which is easy to learn.*

Last week's selections from “Alleluia Aotearoa” and other NZHT books are also appropriate this week, as well as a number of the other selections

The Spiritual When Israel was in Egypt's land (Go Down Moses) would be suitable today

Other possibilities:

It's a good day to sing **Amazing Grace** [NEW BRITAIN *is the name of the trad. tune*]

Other traditional items might include:

I heard the voice of Jesus say [KINGSFOLD] *Classic hymn to a lovely folk tune (music). A good (less sentimental) revision of the second line is in CoCs #31: “I bring good tidings of release to you who are oppressed”. TiS #585 has modernized words, which you can also find on the useful “Guitar chords for hymns” site.*

and an inclusive language version of Whittier's hymn:

Dear God embracing humankind [REPTON aka “Dear Lord and Father...”]

Songs and contemporary hymns:

God forgave my sin (Freely, freely) *The evergreen song from Carol Owens. HFTC #s.12, CoCs #627 Lyrics, with a list of source books. Rather wooden instrumental video with singalong words. Slightly syrupy singalong, but good quality. Guitar chords (& that third verse), although I think the refrain is missing a Bm on the second “freely”. If you have a CCLI licence the song is available here.*

Jesus stand among us at the meeting of our lives *Songs of the Kingdom #222*

Jesus stand among us at the breaking of the bread:/ Join us as one body as we worship you, our Head./ O Jesus we love you so we gather here...

This is a day of new beginnings [\[BEGINNINGS\]](#) *Another fine hymn by Brian Wren with a lovely, easy-to-learn tune (but watch the last verse ending) by Carlton R. "Star-Child" Young.*

I come with joy, a child of God [\[UNIVERSITY\]](#) *This hymn by Brian Wren was formerly known as "I come with joy to meet my Lord". A good communion hymn today*

In the singing, in the silence [\[BREAD OF PEACE\]](#) *Click the "full text" tab for the words. Also in FFS #38. Lovely communion hymn by Shirley Murray & Carlton R. Young*

O God beyond all praising sung to [THAXTED](#) aka "I vow to thee my country" is a grand opening hymn. Click the "full text" tab for the words.

25th in Ordinary Time (A): “Are you envious because I am generous?”

Exodus 16:2-15

Guide me, O my great redeemer [CWM RHONDDA] *Processional or recessional, perhaps. This is the modern-language version as found in HFTC #528*

Jonah 3:10 – 4:11

When you spoke *Gentle contemporary song from ResoundWorship*

Psalms 105: 1-6 & 37-45

Let us sing to the Lord our creator [SING HOSANNA] *Another way to use the lively tune known as “Give me oil...”. I can imagine the first line being “We will sing to you God, our Creator” and subsequent amendments for inclusiveness.*

Philippians 1:21-30

Glory to God the source of all our mission *Another hymn from the prolific Christopher Idle. This would be very suitable for a “Decade of Mission” emphasis. The suggested tune LORD OF THE YEARS is excellent, you could use O PERFECT LOVE*

Matthew 20:1-16

God of hosts, you chose a vine [BUCKLAND aka “Loving shepherd of your sheep”]. *Suitable gospel hymn*

Featured hymn text this week, for those who are praying for peace in troubled countries:

[This is my song](#), O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This land is home, the country where my heart is;
A land of hopes, and dreams, and grand design
But other hearts in other lands are beating,
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country’s skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on wheatfield and on vine.
But other lands have sunlight too and wheatfields,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Sovereign of the nations:
Your kingdom come; on earth your will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
O hear my prayer, Creator of all peoples;
Myself I give you, let your will be done.

*Text: vv. 1-2 Lloyd Stone (1912-1993) adapted, v.3 Georgia Harkness (1939) adapted
Tune: FINLANDIA, by Jean Sibelius*

Last week's featured hymn text **As we gather at your table** would also be suitable this week

A simple and attractive Communion hymn from John Bell / Iona Community:

Bread is blessed and broken (TIS #707)

Other selections:

Great is your (thy) faithfulness [FAITHFULNESS] "Great is your faithfulness, God our Creator..." HFTC #260, or "Sing Glory"#39 is a modern-language version.

Morning has broken [BUNESSAN] *Link to words with guitar chords in C*

Here in this place [GATHER US IN] [Melody line and chords](#). TIS #474 [and these other books](#). *Good opening hymn.*

Put peace into each other's hands [ST COLUMBA] *by Fred Pratt Green. At the Peace, or perhaps as an Offertory hymn*

For the fruits of all creation [AR HYD Y NOS] *by Fred Pratt Green. "...and for gifts to every nation..."*

Eat this bread and never hunger *by Dan Damon words and music from Hope Publishing*

[Sent forth by God's blessing](#) [THE ASH GROVE] *by Omer Westendorf. The book "Community of Christ Sings" has an inclusive language version of the hymn.*

Sent forth by God's blessing,
our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this table take leave.
The supper is ended: may now be extended
the fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of Christ's teaching,
our hungry souls reaching,
shal blossom in action for all humankind.
With grace to incite us, and love to unite us
we work for the kingdom,
God's purpose to find.

With praise and thanksgiving
to God, ever-living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face,
our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing as neighbours
all those of each race.
One feast that has fed us,
one light that has led us,
unite us as one in the life that we share.
Then may all the living,
with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ

as the name that we bear.

Omer Westendorf (alt.)

You shall go out with joy *TiS #755, Songs of the Kingdom #192 Lively song for the close of worship*

26th in Ordinary Time (A): “Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus”

Ezekiel 18: 1-4, 25-32

O the love of my Lord is the essence “Our Songs” #218, “Praying in Song #297” and these hymnals

Psalm 25: 1-9

Hear me O Lord in my distress Long Meter tune (88.88) e.g. WAREHAM or HEREFORD

Philippians 2: 1-13

May the mind of Christ my Saviour [ST LEONARDS] *Words, music and hymnal instances*

Matthew 21: 23-32

Love divine, all loves excelling [HYFRYDOL, LOVE DIVINE or BLAENWERN] *Really good, inclusive/contemporary version of the words*

Featured hymn text this week:

I cannot tell how he whom angels worship [LONDONDERRY AIR aka DANNY BOY]

It is strongly suggested that you omit verse 3 – otherwise this hymn is very long. Also, a low setting of the tune is recommended as the range goes very high otherwise

Worship Songs:

Meekness and majesty (Kendrick) *Possible Offertory hymn “Sing Glory” #395. Guitar chords on this pdf. Smooth-style singalong video.*

From heaven you came [The Servant King] (Kendrick) TiS #256, SG #632 *Good closing song. Here is a singlong video (YouTube) which appears to be Cliff Richard and others. Words and a suite of free downloadable resources*

Jesus is Lord! creation’s voice proclaims it

There is a redeemer *Melody Green’s evergreen worship song. “Sing Glory” #396. Singalong video (instrumental, no voices). Another singalong video (with voices and a very nice key change).*

Spirit of the Living God (Iverson) *Songs of the Kingdom #98*

O God you search me (Bernadette Farrell) *Words and chords. Slightly slow but attractive performance.*

Gospel Acclamations (normally sung both before and after the Gospel):

Jesus, name above all names *Songs of the Kingdom #21.*

All heaven declares *Words & chords. SG #420*

Hymns traditional and contemporary:

At the name of Jesus [CAMBERWELL] *(suggested verses, as in Together In Song (#231) or 1,3,6,7 from the original. These may be considered sufficient and the congregation may be exhausted if you attempt all 7!)*

Help us accept each other (7.6.7.6 D, e.g. AURELIA)

[Christ's is the world in which we move](#) (A Touching Place) [DREAM ANGUS] (Bell & Maule, from the Iona Community) Effective sung unaccompanied. Lyrics. Superb unaccompanied choir

Lord Jesus Christ you have come to us [LIVING LORD] *TiS #526, SG #670, [Scroll to the bottom of this page](#) for more hymnal instances. [Youtube with lyrics](#).*

And some songs for springtime in Aotearoa:

Our life has its seasons (Shirley Murray/Colin Gibson, *Alleluia Aotearoa #113*)

Jesus comes to me as a springtime tree [JOY] (Shirley Murray/Ian Render, AA#77)

Want more choice? Try [Singing The Faith Plus](#) for lectionary selections.

27th in Ordinary Time (A): “People that produce the fruit of the kingdom”

Isaiah 5: 1-7

I am the vine FFS #35 *Hebrew-style melody*

Psalm 80: 7-15

The God of Abraham praise [LEONI]

Philippians 3: 4b -14

Lord God your love has called us here [MELITA aka “Eternal Father strong to save”]

Matthew 21: 33-46

The kingdom of God is justice and joy [HANOVER]

Featured hymn text this week:

Sing for God’s glory that colours the dawn of creation *A hymn by Kathy Galloway (Iona Community) which echoes Psalm 19, written for the tune LOBE DEN HERRN which is familiarly known as “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”. This would make a good opening hymn if sung with vigour, rather than the ponderous mode so often employed. [Scroll down to find the text on this page.](#) A slight amendment to the lyrics is suggested: using ‘follows’ in place of ‘succeeds’ simply because the sound of “suck seeds” is somewhat infelicitous.*

Let all creation dance (Brian Wren) *also sung to a familiar tune: DARWALL (aka Ye Holy Angels Bright). TIS #111 or the lyrics are [on this page.](#) Good opening hymn. Again, the key performance indicator is the word “dance”! Click on the [full text](#) tab for the words.*

God you spin the whirling planets (Jane Parker Huber) *which can be sung to HYFRYDOL or AUSTRIA or other 8.7.8.7.D. A good closing hymn*

I danced in the morning (Lord of the dance) *is appropriate in relation to the Gospel reading. Everything you could possibly need is [on this page.](#)*

If you want something more reflective, some verses from **My song is love unknown** would be apt (suggest 1, 2, 5, 7) but definitely not all of them!

This is my body, broken for you (Jimmy Owens, additional lyrics Damian Lundy). *Very appropriate offertory or communion hymn. Music is in Scripture in Song book 2 (Songs of the kingdom). Definitely worth using the extra verses which are [here](#)*

Now the green blade rises [NOEL NOUVELET] *This song has the virtue of echoing the gospel reading and the Epistle. It would be a good communion or post-communion hymn. Lyrics [here](#)*

What a friend we have in Jesus *has its place among today’s readings too.*

*If you can play internet tracks through your sound system and you’d like some lively exit music you might enjoy the hoedown style of **O Author of faith** with its strong references to the Epistle reading.*

28th in Ordinary Time (A): “Invite everyone you meet to the wedding banquet”

Featured hymn text this week:

Come to the banquet (there’s a place for you) *Don’t miss the chance to check out Australian writer Fay White’s delightful hymn. Your congregation could sing along to this [Youtube clip](#) (which is in D minor). Excellent performance, words are provided on the screen.*

Come to the celebration all who are hungry *A lively hymn that is bang on theme for this week, from the pen of Marnie Barrell, who also wrote the lively Scottish reel type tune CANA. This hymn is in “Alleluia Aotearoa” (#27) and is well worth learning as it makes a lively opening or offertory hymn for many occasions. The text can be found [here](#)*

Now to your table spread (AA #100) [LOVE UNKNOWN] *A lovely Offertory or communion hymn by Shirley Murray.*

*Another lively alternative opening song is **Gather us in (Here in this place)** by Marty Haugen, which draws on the Gospel imagery. An excellent addition to any repertoire. [Melody line and chords](#). TIS #474 [and these other books](#)*

Shout for joy! the Lord has let us feast (TIS #545, also Wild Goose Songs “Love from Below”). *This is a strong hymn fitting today’s readings, with the last line: “heaven starts here! The kingdom beckons now!”*

John Bell has another powerful text in **Among us and before us Lord you stand** (TIS #259) *“Confronting those unworthy of a crumb, you ask that to your table we should come.”* His own tune GATEHOUSE is attractive but not easy to learn – you could substitute SURSUM CORDA.

In relation to the psalm you could use **You Lord are both Lamb and Shepherd** sung to PICARDY or perhaps Shirley Murray’s **Come and find the quiet centre** (FFS #10), sung to the Gaelic tune suggested, or BEACH SPRING

For a blast from the past why not resurrect **Rejoice in the Lord always** for a gradual song, since it refers to the Epistle reading. It’s fun to sing as a round, and you can include ad. lib. verses such as “Give thanks to the Lord always” and “Be one in the Lord always”.

Give thanks with a grateful heart would also be a suitable gradual hymn, or for post-communion

Some other NZ hymnody:

We are many, we are one (FFS #67)

Who is moving through the silence (AA #157)

Some more traditional selections:

I come with joy a child of God (aka I come with joy to meet my Lord)

Now thank we all our God (for the Epistle)

My God and is your table spread

29th in Ordinary Time (A): “Give to God what is God’s”

Featured hymn text this week:

A spendthrift lover is the Lord This is a remarkable piece of poetry from the pen of Thomas Troeger, asking “*How shall we love this heartstrong God who gives us everything?*” This hymn (TIS 676) is effectively sung to KINGSFOLD. The only non-inclusive language is in the first line, so “our God” could perhaps be used instead. Perhaps best as a post-sermon reflection, or offertory hymn.

For the psalm:

Be exalted O God (I will give thanks to you).

Brent Chambers’ classic Scripture in Song piece, with updated language in TIS 726 (or just change “thee” to you in each case).

For the Isaiah reading:

I have called you by your name (Dan Damon) nicely references God’s message to Cyrus. Suitable for the Gradual, or post-communion, or could be used for sending forth.

Maker of mystery, a lovely piece of writing by Marnie Barrell is found in FFS 47 and can be sung to DOWN AMPNEY. It has a nice fit with the mystery of Cyrus being used by God, but extends beyond. Gradual or post-communion.

For the Thessalonians reading:

Jesus put this song into our hearts (Kendrick) could be sung as a lively gradual or closing song. TIS 670 [Nice rendition on Youtube](#) . You don’t have to speed up quite that much, though!

We are one in the Spirit still stands the test of time, as long as the lyrics are inclusive! (as [here](#)) Of the suggestions for this week, this might work as a gathering hymn

Through all the changing scenes of life is an appropriate traditional hymn. TIS 112
For the Gospel reading:

Take my gifts and let me love you (Murray/Gibson) AA 127. Lively offertory or closing hymn

Here we bring, small or great (Gibson) AA 62 A lively offertory hymn

Take my life and let it be

O God we bear the imprint of your face (Murray) AA 106, which can be sung to UNDE ET MEMORES (as in “And now o Father mindful of the love”). Check out [this creative idea](#) which echoes this hymn and the Gospel reading

Lord of creation, to you be all praise (or “God of..”) is sung to SLANE (make sure you use the appropriate tune version!). The lyrics are [here](#). Another possible offertory hymn

All my hope on God is founded

Blow through the valleys a lovely hymn by Bill Bennett of Napier which could open the service. FFS #6

When we are living (we belong to God) PUES SI VIVIMOS (Suitable if you are using the Jane Williams reflection material for this day)

30th in Ordinary Time (A): “The Greatest Commandment”

Today is the anniversary of the Reformation. You may like to include a hymn by Martin Luther.

Featured hymn this week:

Love is your way (Murray/Harling) Per Harling has provided an easy but distinctive tune for Shirley Murray’s words (see HIOS #95) The hymn focuses on the ways in which we neglect love and grace and so distort the world of relationships and the natural order:

“Love is your way, love is your nature, blessing each creature, lighting each day; grace is your sign, gift of forgiveness, chalice that changes water to wine. *God in your grace, God in your mercy, turn us to you to transform the world.*” This could be sung as an offertory hymn.

Another couple of texts from Shirley that would work today are:

God of freedom, God of justice sung to PICARDY (AA #50) – very suitable in these troubled times. (Could be sung to bracket each section of intercession)

Christ, let us come with you (AA #17) with an attractive tune by Colin Gibson (WROSLYN ROAD). [Offertory or Communion]

Another Colin Gibson hymn would work today: **We are many, we are one**. Hard work for the accompanist, but an easy, catchy tune. This can be sung at the beginning or the end of worship.

Another of Colin’s is suitable for all ages:

How much am I worth? Really easy tune, great with guitar. (HIOS #63)

A blast from the past that could still work is the 50’s sounding **Love the Lord your God with all your heart...** which is a part-song where the three parts can be sung together. There’s a wobbly-sounding version [here](#) but also guitar chords and powerpoint. Note: You need to make the language inclusive by substituting “love all humankind” for the original “love all of mankind”. Obviously a song to sing early on in your service, or before the Gospel.

To close your service you could use Marnie Barrell’s excellent sending forth hymn **From this holy time** (HIOS #31, goes well to LAUDATE DOMINUM if you don’t want to learn the set tune)

The haunting Iona (John Bell) hymn **Christ’s is the world in which we move** [DREAM ANGUS] could be sung today – very suitable as a post-communion reflection. There is a musical performance you could sing to, with the lyrics [here](#) (TIS #677)

Other well-known choices could include:

Make me a channel of your peace (TIS #607)

When I needed a neighbour were you there? (TIS #629)

Kneels at the feet of his friends (TIS #640)

The new commandment that I give to you (TIS #699, but with updated lyrics is better.... “By this, all people will know you’re my disciples”)

Bind us together, Lord

Let there be love shared among us

I love this family of God (E aroha ana ahau)

Tell my people I love them AA #132

They’ll know we are Christians by our love *(check that your version uses inclusive language) CoCs #359 There is a contemporary [video version here](#) as a demo – I wouldn’t recommend the video for a church service, though. Snappy new refrain in this version.*

Brother, sister let me serve you / Will you let me be your servant

31st in Ordinary Time (A): “The greatest among you will be your servant”

Featured hymn today:

Who sweeps the stable (when Christmas is over) (Murray/Gibson) *OK, this may seem like a strange suggestion because it sounds like it's unseasonal, but it's really a song about service to others. Good to learn now, and then could be sung during Epiphany as well. I like the Colin Gibson tune BATH STREET. (HIOS #154(i)) Words can be found [here](#).*

Featured Youtube clip:

From heaven you came (the Servant King) (Graham Kendrick). *A [beautiful recording with lyrics](#) for congregational singing. Male solo sounds like Cliff Richard. There won't be a dry eye in the house. Words and an accompaniment track are [here](#).*

Loving Spirit, loving Spirit (Shirley Murray) *I prefer the tune by David Dell (AA #94(i) but you could use FELICITY or an 87.87 tune*

Brother, sister, let me serve you / Will you let me be your servant (Richard Gillard) *Found in many books. AA#8*

Lord make me like you (Jimmy and Carol Owens) *Songs of the Kingdom #76*

Give thanks with a grateful heart – *A suitable Gradual TIS #717*

Make me a channel of your peace TIS #607

He came singing love [SINGING LOVE] AA #59

Tama ngakau marie (Son of a peaceful heart) AA #128, *with translation (not for singing). This could be sung during communion.*

Who is my mother, who is my brother? (Murray / Render AA #158

We are one in the Spirit / They'll know we are Christians by our love CoCs #359 *There is a contemporary [video version here](#) as a demo – I wouldn't recommend the video for a church service, though. Snappy new refrain in this version.*

My Lord you wore no royal crown (Christopher Idle). *This is a neglected hymn in “Hymns for Today's Church” (#118) but is very attractive sung to O WALY WALY. (or ANGELUS or HEREFORD or MARYTON) The text is [here](#)*

Also you can scroll down this page for the hymn selections for September 10 “Love is the fulfilling of the Law”

Off the wall dept: If you want a video clip which emphasizes the denunciation of the Pharisees you could show **Alas for you** from the 1973 (yes it is that long ago) film of “Godspell”. [Youtube clip](#)

All Saints Day (A):

Sing of the saints who were loved and made beautiful [WAS LEBET] *Lovely words from Marnie Barrell AA #120*

For all the saints who've shown your love [O WALY WALY or DUNEDIN]

Give thanks for life (Shirley Murray) *A hymn inspired by the well-known "For all the saints" and using the same tune: SINE NOMINE. A good opening hymn and not as long and lugubrious as the original. The text is [here](#) and is also published in AA #45*

All heaven declares [Words & chords](#). SG #420

All who would valiant be

Blest are the pure in heart

Bright the vision that delighted

Fill your hearts with joy and gladness

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful

The Lord is my light

Through all the changing scenes of life TIS #112

[Here is a large list of material for All Saints Day, compiled by Jeff Shrowder](#)

32nd in Ordinary Time (A): “Judged unready”

Featured link this week:

[Hope Publishing Company's Searchable database of hymns](#)

Note: you can use texts from Hope Publishing Company if you have a copyright licence from CCLI or LicenSing. This is a searchable database (e.g. by Scripture reference) of their many hymns. A lot of them have pdf's of the music, too.

Featured hymn text this week:

Whose is the voice which makes the winds to blow? (Timothy Dudley-Smith). [A beautifully set interpretation](#) of verses from Amos 4 & 5. The text, which can be sung to WOODLANDS (“Tell out my soul”) if you want it lively, or SURSUM CORDA if you'd like it to be more reflective. Suggested uses: Closing or possibly offertory hymn.

What have we failed to do? (Shirley Erena Murray). [A searing challenge from Shirley Murray's pen](#) which reflects Amos's challenge in contemporary words. Sung to DARWALL'S 148TH (a.k.a “You holy angels bright”).

Let justice roll down like a river (Colin A. Gibson). As found in Alleluia Aotearoa (#85). Worth learning the tune for this one.

Christ the light who shines unfading (Christopher Idle) May be sung to REGENT SQUARE (A.k.a. “Angels from the realms of glory”)[lyrics are here](#)

God whose giving knows no ending (Robert L Edwards). A very suitable offertory hymn for today. Tunes: the lovely BEACH SPRING or well-known HYFRYDOL or RUSTINGTON The lyrics are [here](#)

What praise emerged from waiting lips (Carl P. Daw Jr.) Sung to KINGSFOLD (A.k.a. “I heard the voice of Jesus say”) An attractive sending-forth hymn with lyrics [here](#)

Let justice roll like a river (Marty Haugen) A fab gospel-style song which the congregation could sing along on the refrain. Also printed music in “Community of Christ Sings #288”

Christ be our light (Bernadette Farrell) [Singalong video](#). “Praying in Song #242, or you can [buy the score](#). All the [words are on this page](#)

Every step of the way (Christopher Grundy) Lovely short song that could be used as a reflection after communion, for example. Attractive Youtube clip [here](#) includes words

Beauty for brokenness (Graham Kendrick) A strong song which could close the service. [Lyrics here](#) Very effective Youtube clip with words too [here](#). Nice key change! Also in “Community of Christ sings #302” and many other books.

Bambelela (Never Give Up) (Marty Haugen) This African-style song might just give you goosebumps! Simple words, beautifully sung in [this Youtube clip](#). Would make a lovely meditation on the Gospel, or post-Communion

From this holy time (Marnie Barrell) *sung to* LAUDATE DOMINUM *Words: HIOS #31 Sending forth hymn*

33rd in Ordinary Time (A): “Parable of the talents”

From you all skill and science flow [ST. PETER or other 86.86 tune] *Modern words to a traditional tune; suited to the Gospel hymn*

Take my life and let it be [NOTTINGHAM]

Come as you are, that’s how I want you [COME AS YOU ARE] *An Australian song by Deirdre Browne. TiS #693. Easy to learn. [Karaoke video](#).*

Here we bring, small or great [ASHLEY] AA #61 *A hymn about money and our stewardship*

The kingdom is within you *Cecily Sheehy’s lively blues* AA #137

Christ the Lord who calls us *An Offertory hymn. It can be sung to AU CLAIR DE LA LUNE for a meditative style, or CAMBERWELL aka “At the name of Jesus” for a more vigorous tune. If 5 verses seems too many, omit v.4*

To Christ who once this supper made [WINCHESTER NEW (88.88)] *A useful communion hymn from Christopher Idle. [Words](#).*

Let us talents and tongues employ [LINSTEAD] TiS #537

This day God gives me strength of high heaven [BUNESSAN aka “Morning has broken”] TiS #642

All-creating heavenly giver [RUSTINGTON or other rousing 87.87D tune] *This would make a good Offertory or Processional hymn today, and I could imagine the lyrics being slightly adapted too.*

Take my gifts and let me love you [TALAVERA TERRACE] AA #127

Beauty for brokenness (Graham Kendrick) *A strong song which could close the service. [Lyrics here](#) Very effective Youtube clip with words too [here](#). Nice key change! Also in “Community of Christ sings #302” and many other books.*

Sent out in Jesus name aka “Sent by the Lord am I” *Lively Latin-American short song, very easy to learn. There’s an [inclusive language version of the words here](#). Note that the first 4 lines are repeated.*

The Spirit sends us forth to serve [ABRIDGE or other 86.86 tune] *A recessional hymn from Delores Dufner*

Aotearoa Sunday (A)

Where mountains rise to open skies (AA #155) *Great opening hymn*

Blow through the valleys (FFS #6) *Also fitting for the Reign of Christ*

These hills where the hawk flies lonely (FFS #63)

God of our island home (HIOS #43) *The congregation could easily learn just the refrain of this song, which could be sung as a post-communion reflection*

E Te Ariki, whakarongo mai ki a matou (HIOS #23)

[Beneath the Southern Cross](#) *Malcolm Gordon's stirring song is published in his book "Songs for the Saints" with a CD included.*

The Reign of Christ (A): “Christ in all creation”

Ezekiel reading:

Here in this place (Gather us in) *Melody line and chords. TiS #474 and these other books*

Psalm 95:

Come sing with joy to God [DARWALL’S 148th]

Ephesians:

This is a day of new beginnings TiS #653

You Lord are both lamb and shepherd [PICARDY] *Text is on this page*

Matthew 25:

As we gather at your table by Carl P. Daw Jr – *very apt communion hymn for this week. Beautiful match with the lovely American tune BEACH SPRING (87.87D) which is easy to learn. NETTLETON is another good tune.*

Here to the house of God we come [KHAO I DANG] #AA 61 *The tune is not difficult*

When I needed a neighbour were you there? TiS #629 *Words. Found In 16 hymnals*

Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord TiS #390 *and these other hymnals*

Alleluia, sing to Jesus [HYFRYDOL] *Resources and hymn book numbers on this page.*

Majesty (or, Te Ariki) *in 22 hymnals*

Jesus Christ is waiting [NOEL NOUVELET] *lyrics are here*

Meekness and majesty [Kendrick] *Possible Offertory hymn “Sing Glory” #395. Smooth-style [singalong video](#).*

The kingdom of God comes with justice and joy *(an adaptation of Bryn Rees’s hymn so that it can be sung to the tune of To God be the Glory)*

The kingdom of God comes with justice and joy,
for Jesus restores what our sin would destroy.
God’s power and glory in Jesus we know,
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

For the kingdom of God offers mercy and grace;
every captive is freed, all the lost find their place.
The outcasts are welcomed God’s banquet to share,
and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God brings us challenge and choice;
believe in the Gospel, repent and rejoice!
With love for the world Christ accepted the cross:
Our crisis of judgment for gain or for loss.

For the kingdom is come, both the gift and the goal -
in the Saviour begun, and in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer this call,
and all things cry, "Glory!" to God, All-in-all. *(repeat this verse)*

You shall go out with joy *(an apt conclusion!)* *in 27 hymnals*