

and its strength in the unity of its purpose  
to shelter and support your promise.  
Remind us you have woven us so that no strand by itself reveals your design  
but together we are the fine mat, Te Pouhere.

**Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us  
so we and all your children shall be free,  
and the whole earth live to praise your name.**

### Blessing

God the Holy Trinity who calls us into community  
and gives us many gifts to share,  
make you strong in faith and love,  
empower you to minister,  
and guide you in truth and peace;  
and the blessing of God, our Creator, Redeemer and Giver of life  
be with you now and always.

Closing Hymn      *FFS 67      We are many, we are one*

Haere i runga i te aroha. Haere i runga i te rangimarie.  
Go now to love and serve the Lord. Go in peace.  
**Amen. We go in the name of Christ**



## *Te Pouhere (Constitution) Sunday*

*Celebrating our life  
as a Three Tikanga church*



Opening Hymn: AA 155      *Where mountains rise to open skies*

### The Gathering of the Community

E te whanau a te Karaiti,  
welcome to this holy table;  
welcome to you, for we are Christ's body, Christ's work in the world.  
Welcome to you whose baptism makes you  
salt of the earth and light to the world.  
Rejoice and be glad.  
Praise God who gives forgiveness and hope.

**Amen. Christ is our light,  
the joy of our salvation.**

Sentence: Help me to understand the way of your precepts, O God, and I  
will meditate on your wonders. *Psalm 119:27*

### Song of Praise

Blessed are you, God of the universe.  
You have created us, and given us life.

**Blessed are you, God of the planet earth.  
You have set our world like a radiant jewel in the heavens,  
and filled it with action, beauty, suffering, struggle and hope.**

Blessed are you, God of Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia  
in all the peoples who live here,  
in all the lessons we have learned,  
in all that remains for us to do.

**Blessed are you because you need us;  
because you make us worthwhile,  
because you give us people to love and work to do  
for your universe, for your world, and for ourselves.**

**Forgiveness** (sit or kneel)

We come seeking forgiveness for all we have failed to be and do  
as members of Christ's body.

*Silence*

In God there is forgiveness.

**Loving and all-seeing God,  
forgive us where we have failed to support one another  
and to be what we claim to be.  
Forgive us where we have failed to serve you;  
and where our thoughts and actions have been contrary to yours  
we ask your pardon.**

*The presiding priest says*

Ma te Atua e muru o koutou hara; kai mau te rongou.  
God forgives you. Forgive others; forgive yourself.

*Silence*

Kia koa, kia hari,  
ko te Karaiti te aranga, te taroi o te riri.  
Rejoice and be glad,  
for Christ is resurrection, reconciliation for all the human race.

**We shall all be one in Christ, one in our life together.  
Praise to God who has created us,  
praise to God who has accepted us,  
Praise to God who sends us into the world.**

**The Communion**

When we break this bread,  
we share in the body of Christ, who was broken for us.

**We are many, but we are one for we all share the one bread.**

Bread and wine: the gifts of God for the people of God.

**During Communion: AA 128      *Tama ngakau marie***

*(translation not for singing)*

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Tama ngakau marie, Tama a t'Atua,<br>tenei tonu matou, arohaina mai.  | Son of a peaceful heart, Son of God,<br>here we are, love us.                      |
| 2 | Murua ra nga hara. Wetekina mai<br>enei here kino, whakararu nei.     | Take away our sins. Undo<br>these evil ties which bind us.                         |
| 3 | Takahia ki raro , tau e kino ai;<br>kei pa kaha tonu, ko nga mahi he. | Trample under foot whatever is evil<br>lest the power remain of the evil<br>deeds. |
| 4 | Homai he aroha, mou i mate nei.<br>Tenei ra, e Ihu, takina e koe.     | Give us love for you who died.<br>This day, Jesus, you lead us.                    |
| 5 | Tenei arahina, a tutuki noa:<br>puta i te pouri, whiwhi hari nui.     | This is the pathway to the end through<br>the darkness to receive great joy.       |
| 6 | Tama ngakau marie, Tama a t'Atua,<br>tenei tonu matou, arohaina mai.  | Son of a peaceful heart, Son of God,<br>here we are, love us.                      |

**Prayers after Communion**

Master weaver, you are the creator and we are the flax  
with which you have plaited Te Pouhere, the Constitution,  
a mat which unites our Tikanga in Aotearoa and across the Pacific.  
Your hand has woven us  
so that each Tikanga is revealed in the perfection of its design,  
its pattern in the texture of our differences,

All glory and thanksgiving to you, holy God,  
for on the night before he died Jesus Christ took bread;  
when he had given you thanks,  
he broke it, and shared it amongst his friends, and said:  
take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;  
do this to remember me.

After supper he took the cup;  
when he had given you thanks, he gave it to them and said:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood poured out for you;  
do this as often as you drink it to remember me.

Therefore, in the words and actions of Jesus we see and know you.  
Here, today, we celebrate you.

**God of yesterday, today and tomorrow we thank you.  
God of everywhere and of this place, we will serve you.**

Send your Holy Spirit, that as we eat this bread and drink this wine  
we may be fed with your heavenly food, and live our lives as people filled  
with your love and goodness. Strengthen us to do your work and to be your  
body in the world. Unite us in Christ and give us your peace.

**Through Christ, in the power of the Spirit,  
with all who stand before you, in earth and heaven  
we worship you, Creator God. Amen.**

As Christ teaches us we pray *(please remain standing)*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

**Collect:** God of the southern sea and of these islands,  
God of Norfolk pine and lofty totara,  
God of spindle and sail,  
you brought us to this land of plenty  
and bound us here in sacred trust;  
make us worthy of our covenant with you;  
create in us a deeper belonging by your grace,  
that we may partner your ways together  
and serve your purpose in each other;  
in the name of Christ, our dolphin guide. Amen.

**Readings:** Isaiah 42:10-20 Give glory to God  
(Read in English & in Tongan )  
Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
**Thanks be to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:14-19 A new creation in Christ  
(Read in English & Maori )

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Hymn:** *FFS 6 Blow through the valleys*

**Gospel** John 15:9-17 Abide in my love  
**Praise and glory to God.**

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

**Sermon**

**Affirmation of Faith:**

You, O God, are supreme and holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.

You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.

You, O God, are Holy Spirit.  
You empower us to be your gospel in the world.  
You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.  
You are our God. We worship you.

### **The Prayers of the People**

*We pray for other people and say thank you for God's goodness.*

*Concluding with:*

**God of our faith,  
strengthen our church  
as it seeks to show your love  
in the ministry of its three Tikanga.  
Make us bold to seek new ways to best serve you,  
showing your boundless love  
as you show through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### **The Peace**

God has made us one in Christ. He has set his seal upon us and, as a pledge  
of what is to come, has given the Spirit to dwell in our hearts. Alleluia.

*cf 2 Corinthians 1.22*

Blessed be Christ the Prince of Peace  
**who breaks down the walls that divide.**

The peace of God be always with you.  
**Praise to Christ who unites us in peace.**

### **Offertory Hymn: AA 26** *Come to our land*

### *The Preparation of the Gifts*

God of all wisdom, we bring you our offerings of money, and our offerings  
of bread and wine. We offer to you ourselves, and we offer our hopes and  
dreams for our church and for this land in which we live.

**All you have made is good. Your love endures for ever.**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Spirit of God be with you  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts  
**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the God who made us  
**It is right that we give God thanks and praise.**

It is right to give you thanks, God of all time,  
through Jesus the Christ.  
You are the source of life for all creation  
and you made us in your own image.

In your love for us you sent Christ to bring us wholeness.  
He was made human, like us; and in his suffering, death and resurrection  
you reveal your glory and reconcile all peoples to yourself.  
Your Spirit comes upon your church and makes us your people,  
calls us into community and empowers us to share the diversity of our gifts.  
Therefore with all that lives, in earth and in heaven,  
we stand before you and say:

**Holy, holy, holy  
God of mercy, giver of life;  
earth and sea and sky and all that lives  
declare your presence and your glory.**