

Saturday Evening

Theme

Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.

*Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia,
engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino.*

Call to Worship

So far you have faced no trial beyond what you can bear.
God keeps faith, and will not allow you
to be tempted beyond your power.

When the test comes,
God will at the same time provide a way out,
enabling us to endure it.

Gospel Reflection

Stay awake!
Happy those servants who are alert and ready
when their master comes.

When much is given, more will be demanded.
When a great deal is given on trust,
a great deal more is expected.
Stay awake!

Your master is coming.
Stand ready!

The Son of Man comes at the least expected hour.
The kingdom of God is upon us.

‘Why are you sleeping?’ Jesus said.
‘Rise and pray, that you may be spared the test.’

Silence for meditation.

Epistle Reflection

Love is patient, love is kind and envies no one.
Love is not boastful, never conceited,
never rude nor selfish;
love is not quick to take offence.

Love keeps no score of wrongs;
love delights in the truth;
there is no limit to its faith,
its hope and its endurance.
Love never gives up.

Love never comes to an end.
There are three things that last for ever:
faith, hope and love,
but the greatest of them all is love.

The reading or readings may follow here.

Prayers

Our Father,
save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.

*E tō mātou Matua,
aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia,
engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino.*

Giver of the present, hope for the future:
save us from the time of trial.
When prophets warn us of doom,
of catastrophe and of suffering beyond belief,
then, God, free us from our helplessness,
and deliver us from evil.
Save us from our arrogance and folly,
for you are God who created the world;
you have redeemed us and you are our salvation.

Dear Lord,
watch with those who wake or watch or weep tonight,
and give your angels charge over those who sleep;
tend your sick ones,
rest your afflicted ones, shield your joyous ones,
and all, for your love's sake.

God, we go into this night
confident that the dawn will break tomorrow;
grant that when we come to die,
we may go gladly and in hope,
confident in the resurrection.

Amen.