



love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 26 February 2017



ATTENDING TO THE LAMP THAT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS

until the morning star rises in our heart

2 Peter 1: 19b

WELCOME TO KNOX

Knox Church is a congregation within the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. We aim to create Christian community in which people of all ages, sexual orientations, cultural backgrounds and socio-economic situations are included as equally valued participants in our congregational life. We cherish our diversity, offering a safe place of belonging to any who wish to explore their beliefs in an atmosphere promoting discussion, the development of healthy relationships and spiritual growth. We strive to be open to dialogue and shared experiences with people of other faiths. We enjoy worshipping the God made known in Jesus, endeavouring to do so in ways that are relevant to our daily lives, respect the integrity of creation, and make a positive difference to our wider world.

A loop system for hearing aids operates at Knox.

Toilets are available through the door on the lectern side of the sanctuary.

The Call to Worship:

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.

JESUS, TRANSFIGURED BEFORE THOSE WHO FOLLOWED HIM; JESUS, WHOSE LIFE IS A LAMP SHINING IN DARKNESS; JESUS, WHOSE STAR RISES IN THE HEARTS OF THE FAITHFUL.

Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you. **MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.**



- 1. There's a light upon the mountains, and the day is at the spring when our eyes shall see the beauty and the glory of the King; weary was our heart with waiting, and the night-watch seemed so long, but his triumph day is breaking, and we hail it with a song.
- 2. There's a hush of expectation, and a quiet in the air, and the breath of God is moving in the fervent breath of prayer: for the suffering, dying Jesus is the Christ upon the throne, and the travail of our spirit is the travail of his own.
- 3. He is breaking down the barriers, he is casting up the way, he is calling for his angels to build up the gates of day: but his angels here are human, not the shining hosts above; for the drum-beats of his army are the heart-beats of our love.
- 4. Hark, we hear a distant music, and it comes with fuller swell the great triumph song of Jesus, of our King, Emmanuel: Sion, go you forth to meet him; and, my soul, be swift to bring all your finest and your dearest for the triumph of our King!

Henry Burton (1840-1930)

Prayer of Approach

There's a light upon the mountains – a distant music – or, on the hills, is it really a cross? Works in progress, Peter, James and John follow their Lord up the side of the mountain. Fishermen on their way to discipleship, the least in the kingdom on their way to greatness, **THEY JOURNEY AND FOLLOW THEIR CHRIST.**

Peter, James and John witness something they do not understand: light, prophetic company, clouds and voices from heaven, connections with the fulsome past. **ARRESTED BY MYSTERY, FOCUS-STRETCHED SEEKERS FOLLOW THEIR CHRIST.** Like Peter, James and John, now we come, O God: not quite sure of who we are and how we are loved not quite sure how our legacy will find purpose, dignity or meaning. Like them, here we are, wondering who you are, how we are gathered, and, in light of what shines upon us, what you are calling us to be. HEARING OF GLORY, WE SEEK OUR LIGHT-SHARING CHRIST.

Light-sharing Jesus, today your story will be told. We will seek your company. And we will find ourselves confessing.

For our thoughts words and deeds, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

For omissions slim and vast, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

For the violence and ignorance of our people, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

For the darkness we project onto the light, **HEAR OUR PRAYER.**

Together we say:

... Lord have mercy. CHRIST HAVE MERCY. Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

... In the name of Christ I say to you: You are forgiven and you are free. THANKS BE TO GOD.

Prayer of Supplication:

Eternal God, whose light and glory poured out upon the unsuspecting Jesus, and whose light was seen by even less suspecting human disciples, **NOW YOUR LIGHT COMES UNTO US.**

As Jesus knew who he was, SO MAY WE KNOW WHO WE ARE.

As Jesus knew he was loved, SO MAY WE KNOW WE ARE CHERISHED.

May your light give shape to our identity, AND YOUR GRACE GIVE SHAPE TO OUR HOPE.

We pray this in Jesus' name. Even as he taught us, so together now we pray:

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.

The Passing of the Peace

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou. The peace of Christ be with you all.

A KI A KOE ANO HOKI; AND ALSO WITH YOU.

We exchange a sign of peace with one another.

If there are younger ones present A Conversation with the Younger Ones

Young People's Blessing:

Young ones, go to your worship with our blessing. TAKE OUR FAITH AND HOPE; MAKE NEW THINGS WITH WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN. MAY GOD BLESS AND GROW YOU. AMEN. Young ones are welcome to move through to the Sala del Sol (upstairs in the Knox Centre) for well supervised, faith-based youth activities.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 17: 1-9

This is the gospel of Christ. **PRAISE TO CHRIST THE WORD.**

 The Epistle:
 2 Peter 1: 16-21

In this is the Word of God. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**



Christ, be our light Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

. Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

Chorus:

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered today.

 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us, make us your living voice. Chorus

- 3. Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. *Chorus*
- 4. Longing for shelter people are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. *Chorus*
- 5. Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. *Chorus*

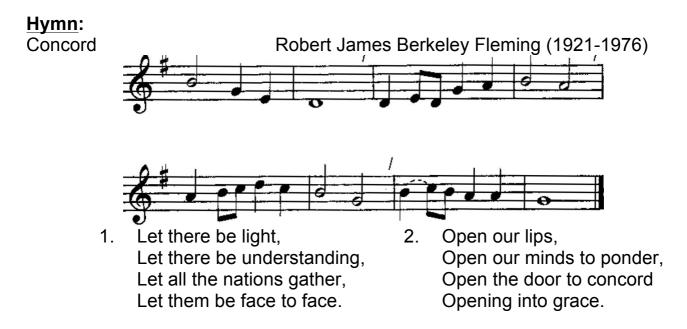
Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

Sermon: The light shining in the heart

Generally, sermons are posted on our website shortly after the service at: <u>http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html</u> Hard copies of the sermons are available before and after the service – ask the person at the door.

Music for Reflection: Air

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)



- Perish the sword, Perish the angry judgment, Perish the bombs and hunger, Perish the fight for gain.
- Hallow our love, Hallow the deaths of martyrs, Hallow their holy freedom, Hallowed be your name.
- Let there be light, Open our hearts to wonder, Perish the way of terror, Hallow the world God made.

Frances Wheeler Davis (b.1936)

4.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Madeleine Church

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Whatever light we might set with another's heart, **GOD WE OFFER.**

Whatever truth we might bring to another's longing to be, **GOD WE OFFER.**

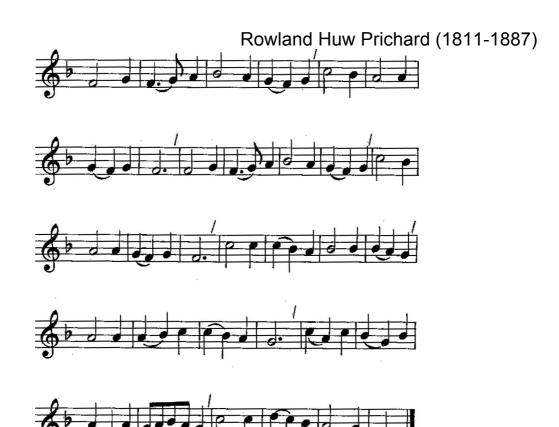
Take what we offer, **AND FILL IT WITH YOUR LIGHT.**

Make us facilitators of your grace **AND LET US SING YOUR TRANSFIGURING STORY.**

Through Jesus, the transfigured One, **AMEN.**

Notices

<u>Hymn</u>: Hyfrydol



1. I will sing the wondrous story of the Christ whose love for me turned my path to true adventure, set my road to liberty. Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story

of the Christ whose light shone free, sing it with his saints in glory, gathered by the crystal sea.

3. Faint was I, and fears possessed me, bruised was I from many a fall, hope was gone, and shame

hope was gone, and shame distressed me:

but his love has pardoned all. Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .

- I was lost: but Jesus found me, found the sheep that went astray, raised me up and gently led me back into the blessèd way.
 Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story of the Christ whose light shone free, sing it with his saints in glory, gathered by the crystal sea.
- 4. Days of darkness still may meet me, sorrow's paths I oft may tread; but his presence still is with me, by his guiding hand I'm led.
 Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .
- 5. He will keep me till the shining of the light within my heart is transfigured by his guiding, giving life to life's each part. *Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*

Francis Harold Rowley (1854-1952), alt MJ, 2017.

Benediction and Sung Amen

<u>Postlude</u>: Chorale from Suite Gothique, Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)

Tea and coffee are served in the Knox Centre Lounge following the morning service

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Writing our Next Chapter - a mission discernment programme for Knox –

An important series of forums are to be held on Sundays 26 March, 30 April, 28 May, 25 June and 30 July. Details can be found in the latest Knox Life (in your letter box, in your inbox, or on the website). Please make these forums a priority.



This Week: 26 February 2017 – 4 March 2017

Today10.00 amMorning Worship11.15 amFaith Film and Fiction in Committee Roomsee belowWednesday 10.00 amBible Study in Committee Room

Next Week: 5 March 2017 – 11 March 2017

Sunday 10.00 am Morning Worship Wednesday 10.00 am Bible Study in Committee Room 7.00 pm Ash Wednesday service – see below Friday 10.00 am World Day of Prayer Service - see below

Faith, film and Fiction – Today

Continuing our theme of slavery and desegregation in the southern USA. Presentation of two books: *America's First Daughter* about Thomas Jefferson who wrote the American Declaration of Independence, and *Belle* about a mixed-race girl adopted by the Earl of Mansfield, who was instrumental in the abolition of slavery in England.

Ash Wednesday - March 1

This year we will be joining St Luke's for the Ash Wednesday service in the Chapel 7.00 pm. All are welcome to this service that marks the beginning of our Easter journey.

World Day of Prayer Service – 3 March

This year's World Day of Prayer service for our area is hosted by St Luke's but will be held in Knox Church on Friday March 3 at 10am, followed by refreshments. All are welcome.

Orana Wild Life Park Visit - March 17

Personal tour led by Matthew Jack. Come and see the Giraffes Yaks and other animals. Meet at the main Gates at 1pm. Transport can be provided. Cost approx \$20 (depends on numbers. .Payment to be made to Jennifer McKinnon or Knox Office prior to the visit. Please add name to lists in foyer or by the front door. Names and numbers needed by Sunday March 12 (so costs etc can be finalised)

Knox church values the support of all who are involved in our community's life. For those who wish to contribute financially, charitable donations are eligible for a tax rebate of 33%. Options are available for giving; for information please contact our Donation Secretary, Janet Wilson, ph 338 7203, email janetwilson@clear.net.nz



The Bible reading for next week will be:

• Matthew 4: 1-11

Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave, Christchurch 8013 Secretary: Diane Harrington, ph. (03) 379 2456, office@knoxchurch.co.nz Office hours: Mon-Fri 9.00am-noon

Visit our website www.knoxchurch.co.nz



website

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack minister@knoxchurch.co.nz

Session Clerk: Janet Wilson, ph. (03) 338 7203

Director of Music: Daniel Cooper, organist@knoxchurch.co.nz

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland ph. 0273560215



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Keeping in Touch

Please help us get acquainted with you by filling in this form and putting it in the offering bag.

Name:

Contact details