



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 28 May 2017



PEOPLE OF GALILEE, WHY ARE YOU DOING THAT?

A service for Ascension

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, THE RISEN ONE, WHO APPEARED TO HIS PEOPLE;

JESUS, THE ASCENDED ONE, WHO DISAPPEARED FROM THEIR SIGHT;

JESUS, WHO PROMISED THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

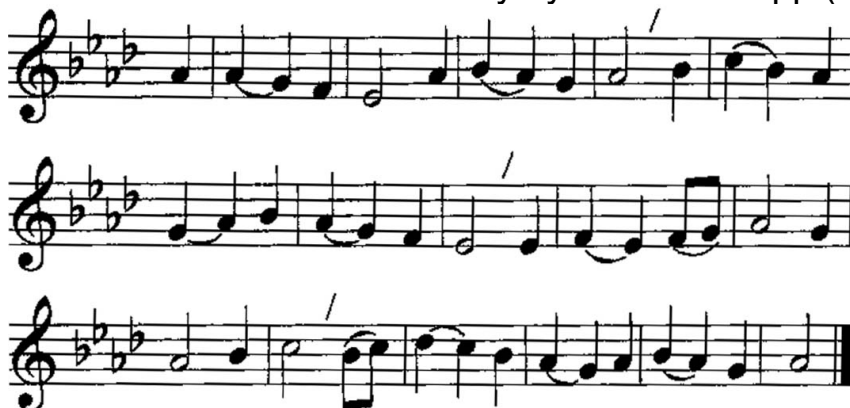
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Wareham

Later form of melody by William Knapp (1698-1768)



1. Where high the heavenly temple stands,
the house of God not made with hands,
a great High Priest our nature wears,
the guardian of all life appears.

2. He who for us our surety stood,
and lived on earth a life of good,
pursues in heaven his mighty call,
the saviour and the friend of all.

3. Though now ascended up on high,
he bends on earth a brother's eye;
partaker of the human name,
he knows the frailty of our frame.

4. With boldness, therefore, at the throne
let us make all our sorrows known;
and ask the aid of heavenly power
to help us in the testing hour.

*Paraphrase by Michael Bruce (1746-1767)
or possibly by John Logan (1748-1788)
in Scottish Paraphrases 1781, alt.*

Prayer of Approach

The guardian of all life appears -

**NOT IN THE GRAVE,
AND NOT IN THE SKIES.**

The One who lived on earth a life of good
is said to be ever-living, forever "God with us".
But where will we find him?

**IN PRAYER AND WORSHIP?
IN COMMUNITY AND CARING?
IN A LIFE OF GOD'S RHYTHMS -
OF BEING STILL AND KNOWING?**

The first few ones to "wonder where"
had known him well.

He'd broken bread with them,
and opened their eyes;
he'd greeted them with peace
and taken away their fear.
But even they were wondering:

**WHERE WILL WE SEE HIM?
WHERE MAY HE BE FOUND?
WHERE SHOULD WE BE LOOKING?
WHERE, FOR US, IS HALLOWED GROUND?**

Already, dear God, he had told them
that they would not be orphaned.

Already he had told them
that the Advocate would come.

**SO COME, O GOD;
READY US FOR YOUR PENTECOST,
MOVE US INTO SINCERE SPIRITUAL SEARCHING,
AND LEAD US TO KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR PRESENCE.**

That we may journey well,
enable us to let go of all that hinders us:

**OUR IMPATIENCE AND RUSHING,
OUR ATTACHMENT TO THE PAST,
THE VIOLENCE OF OUR WORLD.**

As we wait upon the Spirit,
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:

O God, in whose presence Jesus still loves the world,
and intercedes for us,
**HELP US LOOK FOR HIM
IN ALL THE RIGHT PLACES,
AND REVEAL TO US THE PERFECT RHYTHM FOR OUR LIFE.**
Give us patience and peace
in our waiting for the Spirit,
AND MAKE US PEOPLE OF YOUR PRESENCE.

We pray this in the name of Jesus,
and even as he taught us, so together we say:
**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.

The First Lesson: Acts 1: 6-14

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

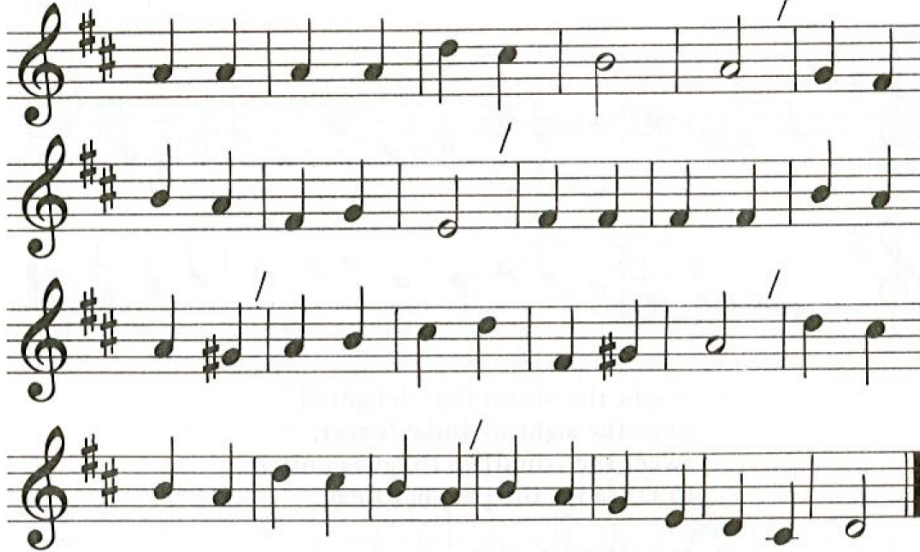
The Gospel Lesson: John 17: 1-11

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

Hymn:

Praise, my soul

John Goss (1800-1880)



1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.
4. 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 (b. 1952)

Sermon: If not *there* . . .

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

Music for Reflection: Quatre petites variants sur Pange Lingua: 1, Viva
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

Hymn:

St Columba

Irish traditional hymn melody



1. Come Holy Ghost, our hearts inspire;
let us thine influence prove,
source of the old prophetic fire,
fountain of life and love.
2. Come Holy Ghost, for moved by thee
the prophets wrote and spoke;
unlock the truth, thyself the key;
unseal the sacred book.
3. Expand thy wings, celestial Dove;
brood o'er our nature's night;
on our disordered spirits move,
and let there now be light.
4. God, through yourself we then shall know,
if thou within us shine,
and sound, with all thy saints below,
the depths of love divine.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Lola Bathgate

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Assured of the continuing love of God,
COMMITTED TO SEEKING THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST,
longing for the coming of the Spirit,
WE BRING OUR OFFERING TO GOD.

May the creativity of God
MULTIPLY WHAT WE HAVE BROUGHT.

May the wisdom of God
TAKE ITS GRACE TO THE PROPER PLACES.

And may the Spirit enable us to serve God well,
**BLESSING THE WORLD
AND MAKING A DIFFERENCE.
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Dunedin

Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985)



1. Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring;
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

2. Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.
3. In every insult, rift and war,
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
4. Women and men, in age and youth
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

Brian Wren (b. 1936)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Suite Gothique, Movement 2, Menuet
Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

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

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The Knox Church Mission Discernment Process

After church, next week, we continue our exploration of our next chapter.
Please come!

Forum Three

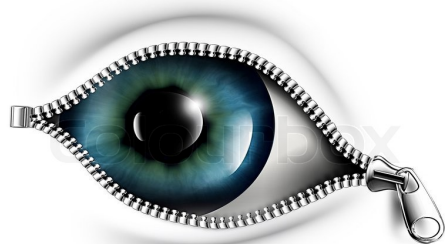


28 May, 11:30am – 12:30pm, soup break, then 12:50pm – 1:50pm

- The garden
- Current garden features at Knox
- Favourite Flowers (our mission statement)
- Dreaming up the perfect garden
- Reflection: Looking at the Spirit
- Getting ready for next time (learning how to look at things)

THE WORK OF THE GARDENER

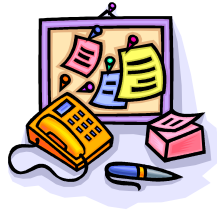
Forum Four



WITH OPENED EYES

25 June, 11:30am – 12:30pm, soup break, then 12:50pm – 1:50pm

- Having explored various parts of the city, we share what we have seen, thought, learned and become interested in.
- We share our chosen news stories from around the city, the country and the world.
- We work out where our focus is falling.
- Closing Reflection: Looking at Saints and Stirrers



NOTICES

This Week: **28 May 2017 – 3 June 2017**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study in Committee Room

Next Week: **4 June 2017 – 10 June 2017**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study in Committee Room

Christchurch Girls' High School Music Concert – Thursday 1 June, 7pm in Knox Church. Students of all instrumental and choral groups present and evening of music. Gold coin entry.

Knox Singers Trip to Cheviot – Sunday 11 June. We are giving a concert at 2.30pm in the Knox Presbyterian Church at Cheviot. If anyone would like to come along, please feel free. See Daniel or Bronwyn.

Soup Makers!! – A vital part of each Forum is the soup and bread midway during the session. It would be great if we could spread the soup making for the next 3 Forum Sundays (last Sundays of May, June and July). If you can help, please see Jennifer McKinnon or Janet Wilson.

Knox Life - Contributions are invited for our next issue of Knox Life. Articles, book or film reviews, poems etc are welcome. Please send to the Knox office by the end of May.

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:

- Acts 2: 1-21

Knox Directory

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

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland
ph. 0273560215



facebook



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