



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 23 July 2017

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*"Christina's World" - Andrew Wyeth, Maine, USA, 1948*

**CALLED TO STAND TALL  
AMONG WHEAT, WEEDS  
AND THE PATIENCE OF GOD**

## 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, LIVING AMONG THE WHEAT AND THE WEEDS;**

**JESUS, CALLING US TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT THROWING A STONE;**

**JESUS, IN WHOSE PATIENT GRACE WE LIVE AND GROW.**

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

**MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.**

### Hymn:

Hyfrydol

Rowland Huw Prichard (1811-1887)



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.*
2. I was lost: but Jesus found me,  
found the sheep that went astray,  
raised me up and gently led me  
back into the blessed way.  
*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*
3. Faint was I, and fears possessed me,  
bruised was I from many a fall,  
hope was gone, and shame distressed me:  
but his love has pardoned all.  
*Yes, I'll sing the wondrous story . . .*
4. 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 Matthew Jack, 2017.*

### **Prayer of Approach**

Shining from the story of Jesus,  
comes a God who is gracious and good.

**GLOWING WITHIN THE STORY OF JESUS  
IS A SPIRIT WHO IS TRUE AND BEAUTIFUL.**

Teach us your way, O God,  
that we may walk in your truth.

**GIVE US AN UNDIVIDED HEART  
TO REVERE YOUR NAME.**

For we have been made in your image,  
with all the right instincts it brings.

**WE WANT TO LIVE TRULY  
AND JUSTLY.**

We want to live kindly  
and ethically;  
**WE WANT TO HONOUR YOU  
WITH LIFE-HARVESTS THAT ARE GOOD.**

But ours is an existence of wheat and weeds,  
**OF GOOD HARVEST  
AND BAD.**

Ours is a life of mixed motivations  
and complicated extenuating circumstances.  
**OURS IS A LANDSCAPE  
OF CONFUSION AND AMBIGUITY.**

Rain falls on the just and unjust;  
**WE GROW OUR OWN WEEDS  
AMONG OUR WHEAT.**

We have a yearning to do something, judge something, stop something . . .  
But then you come to us with a parable,  
with grace and forgiveness,  
with time for amendment  
and a call to be patient with ourselves and others.

**THEREFORE, O GOD,  
WE CONFESS OUR IMPATIENCE WITH OTHERS AND OURSELVES,  
OUR TOO-QUICK JUDGMENT,  
OUR ARROGANCE AND DESTRUCTIVENESS AMONG OUR NEIGHBOURS.**

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:**

God of wheat and weeds,  
you look upon our questionable choices  
and frail decisions

with patience and grace.

**YOU GIVE US FREEDOM TO MAKE MISTAKES,  
LOVE WITHIN WHICH TO GROW,  
AND TIME TO BECOME ALL WE CAN BE.**

Within that tremendous care,  
give us grace to honour you with our lives.

**AMID THE AMBIGUITY,  
TEACH US YOUR WAY, O GOD,  
THAT WE MAY WORSHIP YOU  
WITH AN UNDIVIDED HEART.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
and even as he taught his disciples, so now 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**

*Although there is no Sunday School today, young ones are welcome to enjoy the youth corner at the back of the church where they will find toys and an activity sheet. Sunday School begins again on 30 July.*

**The First Lesson:** Psalm 86: 11-17

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

**The Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

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

**Hymn:**

St George's Windsor

George Job Elvey (1816-1893)



1. Come, you thankful people, come;  
raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in  
as the winter storms begin.  
God, our maker, does provide  
for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come,  
raise the song of harvest home.
2. All the world is God's own field,  
fruit unto God's praise to yield.  
Wheat and tares together sown,  
unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade and then the ear,  
then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we  
wholesome grain and pure may be.

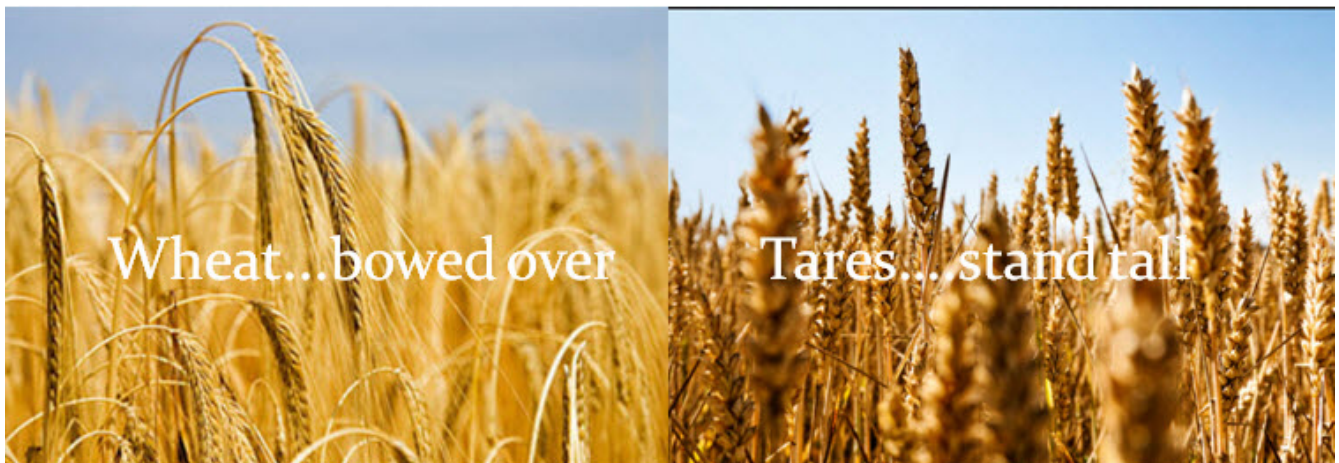
3. For the Lord our God shall come  
and shall take the harvest home,  
from the field shall in that day  
all offenses purge away,  
giving angels charge at last  
in the fire the tares to cast  
but the fruitful ears to store  
in God's love for evermore.
4. Even so, Lord quickly come  
to your final harvest home.  
Gather all your people in,  
free from sorrow, free from sin,  
there, forever purified,  
in your mercy to abide.  
Come, with all your angels, come,  
raise the glorious harvest home.

*Henry Alford (1810-1871), alt.*

**Sermon:**

Wheat, weeds and ambiguity

*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:** Piece in E Minor  
Cesar Franck (1822-1890)



## Hymn:

Ar Hyd Y Nos

Welsh traditional melody



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. For the fruits of all creation,<br>thanks be to God;<br>for these gifts to every nation,<br>thanks be to God;<br>for the ploughing, sowing, reaping,<br>silent growth while we are sleeping,<br>future needs in earth's safe-keeping,<br>thanks be to God. | 2. In the just reward of labour,<br>God's will is done;<br>in the help we give our neighbour,<br>God's will is done;<br>in our worldwide task of caring<br>for the hungry and despairing,<br>in the harvests we are sharing,<br>God's will is done. |
| 3. For the harvests of the Spirit,<br>thanks be to God;<br>for the good we all inherit,<br>thanks be to God;<br>for the wonders that astound us,<br>for the truths that still confound us,<br>most of all, that love has found us,<br>thanks be to God.       |   |

*Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)*

## Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*led by Jennifer McKinnon*

### The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the offering*

Along with the food and money,  
we offer our desire to be patient and creative.

**WE OFFER OUR DESIRE**

**FOR A HARVEST THAT IS NOBLE AND GOOD.**

We offer our desire that all should be right with God's world,  
**AND WE PRAY A BLESSING ON IT ALL.**



Guide, protect and enhance what we offer  
**IN THE NAME OF JESUS.**  
**AMEN.**

## **Notices**

**Hymn:**  
Carlisle

Charles Lockhart (1745-1815)



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Have faith in God, my heart,<br>trust and be unafraid;<br>God will fulfill in every part<br>each promise Jesus made.          | 3. Have faith in Christ, my soul,<br>the cross forever stands;<br>and neither life nor death can pluck<br>his people from his hands. |
| 2. Have faith in God, my mind,<br>though oft your light burns low;<br>God's mercy holds a wiser plan<br>than you can fully know. | 4. Lord Jesus, make us whole;<br>grant us no resting place<br>until we rest, heart, mind and soul,<br>the captives of your grace.    |

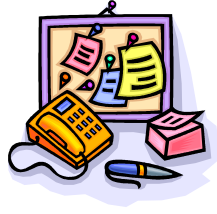
*Bryn Austin Rees (1911-1983)*

## **Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Festive Processional,  
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

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

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## NOTICES

### **This Week: 23 July 2017 – 29 July 2017**

Today 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study in Committee Room  
2.00pm Afternoon Communion Service – **see below**

### **Next Week: 30 July 2017 – 5 August 2017**

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study in Committee Room

### ***Retiring Offering Thanks***

The Fireside Group thank all who contributed to the Retiring Offering last Sunday, and are delighted to say \$448 was raised for the Presbyterian and Methodist Women 2017 Project for Nicaragua and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.

**Book Group** – Sunday 23 July at 11.15am. Book Group are meeting in the Committee Room. Suite Francaise.

**Afternoon Communion Service** - A short communion service will be held in the Knox chapel at 2pm on Wednesday 26 July, to be followed by afternoon tea together. This service is especially for those who find it difficult to get to morning services, but of course everyone is most welcome to attend.

**EcuAction Seminars** - 5.30 – 7pm at Knox Centre, 28 Bealey Ave. Free Event (koha).

Thursday 27 July - Land Matters, Land for the benefit of all.

Thursday 3 August – Money Matters, a living income for all.

### **Learn Te Reo - REGISTER NOW FOR TERM 3!**

An opportunity to share in the Church's bi-cultural journey. Our tutors lead us in a 6 part series of workshops introducing Maori language and culture in Aotearoa New Zealand. This is a course for beginners and will include work on the Anglican Maori liturgies. Development of this course is overseen by the Anglican Diocesan Bicultural Education Committee and Theology House.

Term 3: 7pm to 9:15pm, Tuesdays | 8, 15, 22, 29 August and 5, 12 September. Registrations to be received by Claire Bonner, Administrator, by 5pm Tuesday 1 August 2017. Ph: 03 341 3399, [admin@theologyhouse.ac.nz](mailto:admin@theologyhouse.ac.nz)

**Reminder of 'Theologians in the Cathedral' seminar** -This Sunday 23 July at 5pm, the 'Theologians in the Cathedral' seminar by Prof David Tombs is being held at the Transitional Cathedral: 'The Abused Body of Christ: Why does naming Jesus as a victim of sexual abuse matter for Public Theology?' All welcome.

**Sharing the Good News in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century** - Saturday 26 August, 9:30 am – 3:45 pm Christchurch North Methodist Church, Cnr Harewood Road and Chapel Street, Christchurch. A workshop for lay worship leaders, lay preachers, and all those involved in team ministry. Keynote speakers include: Rev Andrew Gamman, Dr Kathleen Rushton RSM, Wallace Woodley, and Rev'd Jill Keir.

Cost: \$10 pp, \$30 per parish. Bring lunch to share, morning and afternoon tea provided. Registrations to: Linda Cowan, [lindacowan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:lindacowan@xtra.co.nz) by 18 August.

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](mailto:janetwilson@clear.net.nz)

## Knox Church Mission Discernment

### Forum Five



### WHEAT FROM CHAFF

**30 July**, 11:30am – 12:30pm, soup break, then 12:50pm – 1:50pm

Near the end, we should have a number of project areas emerging. Keeping in mind our character and values, our mission bottom lines and major drivers, where our focus is falling, and what brings us joy, we'll sift and sort our options. We'll set goals for whatever we decide we need to do next.

Our next forum is an opportunity for us to refine where we think God already is working, either in our immediate neighbourhood or in our city, and articulate what we believe the Spirit is saying to the Church. We'll then will give significant time to putting this next to our resources (human and material), skills, ethos and ambition for God's world. Again we'll measure all this against our past experiences of growth in spirit and our finding of joy.



### The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 105: 1-11, 45b
- Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

## Knox Directory

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

Visit our website

[www.knoxchurch.co.nz](http://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