



love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 15 October 2017



ON THE THRESHOLD BETWEEN DARKNESS AND LIGHT

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, THROUGH WHOM GOD'S LIGHT SHONE IN OUR WORLD; JESUS, IN WHOM THERE WAS NO DARKNESS AT ALL; JESUS, IN WHOSE COMPANY OUR JOY IS MADE COMPLETE.

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



- I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest, lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast," I came to Jesus as I was, weary and worn and sad; I found in him a resting-place, and he has made me glad.
- I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 "Behold, I freely give the living water; thirsty one, stoop down and drink and live."
 I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream; my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.
- 3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 "I am this dark world's Light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
 I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my Star, my Sun; and in that Light of life I'll walk till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Prayer of Approach

In the beginning, the first great deed of creation was the shining of light, the separating of light from the darkness. **FROM THE BEGINNING WAS THE SHINING OF LIGHT.**

Since the coming of the Christ, whom we saw with our eyes, whom we heard with our ears, whom we touched with our hands, THE LIGHT WAS SHINING; THE DARKNESS DID NOT OVERCOME IT. This is our truth: that God is light, within whom there is no darkness at all.

And this is our worship: TO LIVE IN THE LIGHT, TO WALK IN THE LIGHT, FOR OTHERS, TO CARRY THE LIGHT.

If we should say, O God, "surely darkness will cover us, and the light around us become night, EVEN THEN WE SHALL BE HELD IN YOUR HANDS, FOR IN YOU, THE NIGHT IS AS BRIGHT AS THE DAY.

In the quiet of our prayer, we give thanks to God.

Silence

In the quiet of our prayer, we also make our confession for the dark deeds of our world, for the damage we do to those around us, and the damage we do to ourselves. GOD OF LIGHT, HEAR OUR SILENT CONFESSION OF OUR DARKNESS.

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:

In darkness and in light, in trouble and in joy, bless us, eternal God, to live with wisdom, hope and love. PUT YOUR SPIRIT OF LIFE AND LIGHT IN US, THAT WE MAY DISCERN WHAT IS GOOD, AND REFLECT THE LIGHT OF CHRIST TO ALL CORNERS OF OUR WORLD.

We pray this in his name, 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

Although there is no Sunday School during the holidays, young ones are welcome to enjoy the activity sheets in the children's area at the back of the church.

The First Lesson:Psalm 139: 7-12

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

Knox Singers:

Out of such sun and air Colin Gibson (b. 1933)

The Second Lesson: 1 John 1: 1-7

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



 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

- 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
- Longing for shelter people are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. Chorus
- 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)

Meditation: Present whether it be dark or light

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.



 Lord of our growing years, with us from infancy, laughter and quick-dried tears, freshness and energy: Your grace surrounds us all our days for all your gifts we bring our praise.

- Lord of our strongest years, stretching our youthful powers, lovers and pioneers when all the world seems ours: Your grace surrounds us all our days -
- Lord of our middle years, giver of steadfastness, courage that perseveres when there is small success: Your grace surrounds us all our days -
- Lord of our older years, steep though the road my be, rid us of foolish fears, bring us serenity: Your grace surrounds us all our days -
- Lord of our closing years, always your promise stands; hold us when death appears, safely within your hands: Your grace surrounds us all our days -

David Mowbray (b. 1938)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

To the minister's words "God of light", you are invited to respond "SHINE THROUGH THE DARKNESS."

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Shine your light, O God, in the hearts of your people, **THAT GENEROSITY MAY COME FORTH.**

Through your work in us, MAY KINDNESS AND GRACE BE EXTENDED TO MANY.

Bless the offering we make **IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn: Moscow Felice Giardini (1716-1796)

- 1. God whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight, hear us, we humbly pray, and, where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light!
- Saviour, who came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind, now to all humankind let there be light!
- Spirit of truth and love, life-giving, holy Dove, speed on your flight! Move on the waters' face, bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light!
- Gracious and holy Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might, boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride,

through the world far and wide let there be light!

John Marriott (1780-1825) alt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

<u>Postlude</u>: March, from "Occasional Overture" Georg Friedrich Handel (1685-1759)

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

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Blessing of the Animals Service



Animals display the wonderful variety of creation, and domestic animals in particular hold a special place in our affections. On Sunday 29 October you're invited to bring your pet to church. If your pet isn't easily portable (or has passed away) send a photo to the church office by noon on Friday 27 October. We'll include the photo in a slide show during the service.



This Week: 15 October – 21 October 2017

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship 1.00pm Knox Church Open Day – **See below** Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 22 October – 28 October 2017

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study **Beca Heritage Week: Sunday 15th October 1-4pm KNOX CHURCH OPEN DAY.** This year we will have the church and new foyer open from 1-4pm, with live music from the Knox Singers every 15 minutes from 2.00 - 3.30pm. Daniel has organised the music programme. Everyone welcome and bring your friends!!

Southern Environmental Trust – "Pathways to Swimmable Rivers" Wednesday 18th October 7pm at Knox Church. A free public forum. All welcome.

University of Canterbury concert/exam recital – Sunday 22 October 2pm in the Church. All welcome. No charge.

Jonathan Voon Piano Recital – Featuring Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata". Sunday 29th October, 2pm at Knox Church. Jonathan is a diploma student of Daniel's. Entry \$5

Knox Life - Our next issue of Knox Life will be distributed in November. We would love to have your articles, reviews, poems, photos etc to share with the Knox community. Please email contributions to the Knox office by the end of October.

Missing – We would appreciate information regarding the whereabouts of the two plain chalices from the church kitchen..

Christmas Baking reminder—all orders due in at the end of October – if you need more order forms they can be found in the foyer.

Neighbourhood Week - During Neighbourhood Week, Monday 30 October to Friday 3 November, we would like to reach out to some not-for-profit groups in our area by taking their staff some home-baked goodies for their morning tea one day. Would you be able to do a little baking for them? Or would you be willing to deliver our gifts to one of the groups? If so, please contact Jennifer McKinnon (338 0333) or Janet Wilson (338 7203).

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 readings for next week will be:

- Isaiah 45: 1-7
- Matthew 22: 15-22

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



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