



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## **Order of Service** **19 November 2017**

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## **ETHICAL INVESTMENT**

**- a cautionary word about talent growing -**

## 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, FIRM AND RESOLUTE IN THE FACE OF CORRUPTION;  
JESUS, IN WHOSE KINGDOM THE POOR ARE LIFTED UP HIGH;  
JESUS, CALLING HIS DISCIPLES TO COURAGEOUS FAITH.**

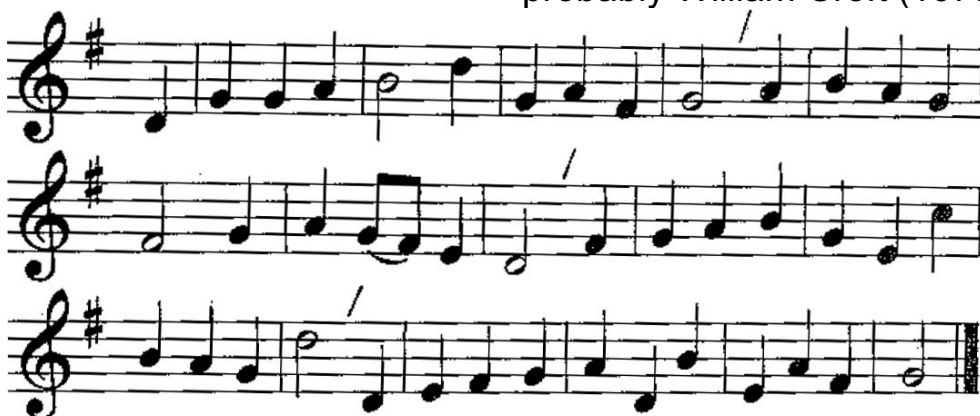
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

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

### Hymn:

Hanover

probably William Croft (1678-1727)



1. The kingdom of God is justice and joy;  
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.  
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;  
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.

2. The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;  
the captives are freed, all people find place,  
the outcast is welcomed, God's banquet to share;  
and hope is awakened in place of despair.
3. The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:  
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!  
His love for his people, brought Christ to his cross:  
our crisis of judgment for gain or for loss.
4. God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;  
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.  
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;  
and all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

*Bryn Austin Rees (1911-1983)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

Justice and joy:  
right relations,  
proper outcomes,  
things sitting well,  
being fair -

**A REIGN OF JUSTICE AND JOY.**

Mercy and grace:  
forgiving,  
giving the second chance,  
extending the benefit of the doubt,  
kindness -

**A REIGN OF MERCY AND GRACE.**

Challenge and choice:  
testing gold in the furnace,  
making mettle true under fire,  
bringing the crisis of character forward,  
soul making -

**A REIGN OF CHALLENGE AND CHOICE.**

The gift and the goal:  
a people given the Spirit,  
a people hallowed for service,  
a people transformed into the likeness of Christ,  
a people still with work to do -

**A REIGN COME UPON US NOW.**

And so in our day to day reality,  
we take on the task of becoming God's people.  
The choices come for us to make.  
The dilemmas present themselves for solving.  
**THE GIFTS ARE PUT INTO OUR HANDS,  
REVEALING, AS WE DEPLOY THEM,  
HOW FULLY THE REIGN OF GOD  
HAS FORMED US.**

And so our confession:  
for the buying and selling of people,  
for the using of others,  
for the dishonest decisions  
and the smoke and mirrors,  
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:**

Gracious and enabling God,  
your son, Jesus, helped and blessed the ordinary people.  
**HE TURNED OVER THE TABLES  
OF THE MONEY LENDERS AND EXTORTIONISTS.**

As we listen today to one of his stranger stories  
where the poor, timid character is punished,  
give us grace to listen carefully.  
**KEEP OUR EYES FIRMLY ON HIS LIFE,  
OUR MINDS ON HIS CHARACTER,  
AND OUR HEARTS ON HIS LOVE,**

that we might become good and faithful servants  
of his legacy and mission.  
**WE MAKE THIS PRAYER 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 over Anniversary Weekend, young ones are welcome to enjoy the activity sheets in the children's area at the back of the church.*

### **The First Lesson:**

Psalm 123

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

### **The Gospel Lesson:**

Matthew 25: 14-30

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

## Hymn:

Salley Gardens

Irish folk tune



1. Inspired by love and anger,  
disturbed by need and pain,  
informed of Christ's own bias,  
we ask him once again:  
"How long must some folk suffer?  
How long can few folk mind?  
How long dare vain self interest  
turn prayer and pity blind?"
2. From those forever victims  
of heartless human greed,  
their cruel plight composes  
a litany of need:  
"Where are the fruits of justice?  
Where are the signs of peace?  
Where is the day when prisoners  
and dreams find their release?"
3. From those forever shackled  
to what their wealth can buy,  
the fear of lost advantage  
provokes the bitter cry,  
"Don't query our position!  
Don't criticise our wealth!  
Don't mention those exploited  
by politics and stealth!"
4. To God, who through the prophets  
proclaimed a different age,  
we offer earth's indifference,  
its agony and rage:  
"When will the wronged be righted?  
When will the kingdom come?  
When will the world be generous  
to all instead of some?"
5. God asks, "Who will go for me?  
Who will extend my reach?  
And who, when few will listen,  
will prophesy and preach?  
And who, when few bid welcome,  
will offer all they know?  
And who, when few dare follow,  
will walk the road I show?"
6. Amused in someone's kitchen,  
asleep in someone's boat,  
attuned to what the ancients  
exposed, proclaimed and wrote,  
a saviour without safety,  
a tradesman without tools  
has come to tip the balance  
with fishermen and fools.

*John Bell (b. 1949)  
and Graham Maule (b. 1958)*

**Sermon:**

The true “good and faithful” servant

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:**

Suite on "Laudate Dominum", Mvt. 3, "Meditation"  
Peter Hurford (b. 1930),  
inspired by Psalm 93: 1-3



"It just appeared after I'd transferred my portfolio into ethical investments."

# Hymn:

Christ, be our light

Bernadette Farrell, (b. 1957)



1. 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.

2. 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)*

### **Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*In our prayers, to the minister's words "Spirit of God, search our hearts",  
you are invited to respond: **"MAKING US TRUE FAITHFUL SERVANTS"**.*

### **The Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

Generous God,  
may the food feed those who are hungry.

**MAY THE CHRISTMAS GIFTS  
BRING JOY TO THE CHILDREN,**

and may the money find an ethical way  
to bringing about good outcomes  
in a world of need.

**BLESS THIS OFFERING  
AND US AS WE SERVE YOU,**

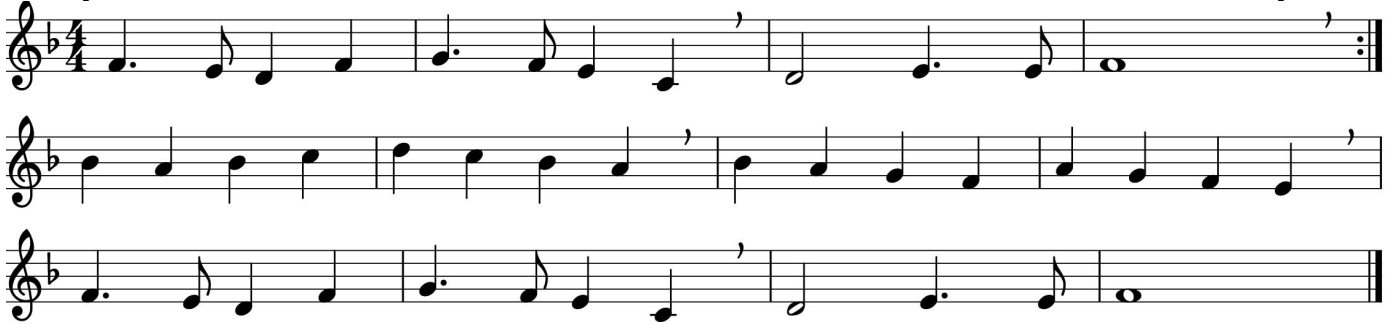
in Jesus' name,  
**AMEN.**

### **Notices**

## **Hymn:**

Ar Hyd Y Nos

Welsh traditional melody



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

*Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000)*

## **Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Suite on "Laudate Dominum", Mvt. 1, "Processional"  
Peter Hurford (b. 1930),  
inspired by Psalm 42: 1

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

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## NOTICES

### **This Week: 19 November – 25 November 2017**

|           |         |                                   |
|-----------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| Sunday    | 10.00am | Morning Worship                   |
| Monday    | 7.30pm  | Fireside Group – <b>see below</b> |
| Wednesday | 10.00am | Bible Study                       |

### **Next Week: 26 November – 2 December 2017**

|           |         |                 |
|-----------|---------|-----------------|
| Sunday    | 10.00am | Morning Worship |
| Wednesday | 10.00am | Bible Study     |

**PILLARS** - Council has approved that for the first three Sundays in November instead of our food etc donations going to St Georges Iona they will be going to PILLARS. PILLARS is a group that looks after families who have family members in prison. Food especially Christmas type food, toiletries, gifts suitable for children and teenagers etc welcome and will be well used. This is the eighth year Knox has donated goods to PILLARS .

**Knox Fireside Group** - The next meeting of the Knox Fireside Group is this Monday November 20 7 30pm in the Knox Lounge. The speaker is Sue Ricketts from MHAPS Mental Health Advocacy and Support. All Welcome.

**Christmas Baking Packing** - Saturday November 25 at 9.30. We will pack the baking. All welcome.

**Parish Lunch** – 3 December, after morning worship. Please bring finger food to share. All welcome.

**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)**



## The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 100
- Matthew 25: 31-46

## 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



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