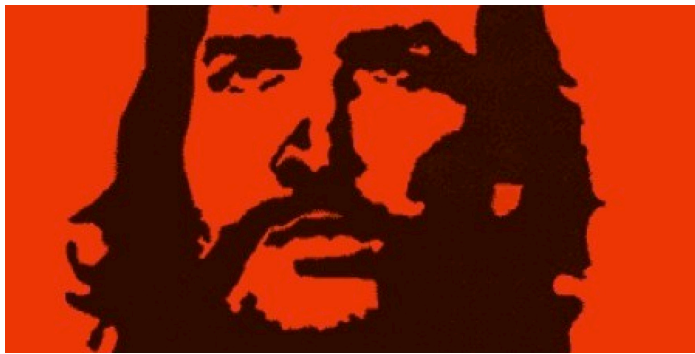




KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 4 March 2018



MADE BY GOD?

A COMMUNION SERVICE

A loop system for hearing aids operates at Knox.
Toilets are available through the door on the lectern side of the sanctuary.

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.

This is a communion service. The table at Knox is an open one. Members of any denomination, as well as any who are seeking God sincerely, are welcome to receive communion here.

The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, MADE BY GOD, PERCEIVED BY PEOPLE;
JESUS, UPSETTING RELIGION IN THE TEMPLE;
JESUS, DRAWING OUR HEARTS AND MINDS TO EASTER.**

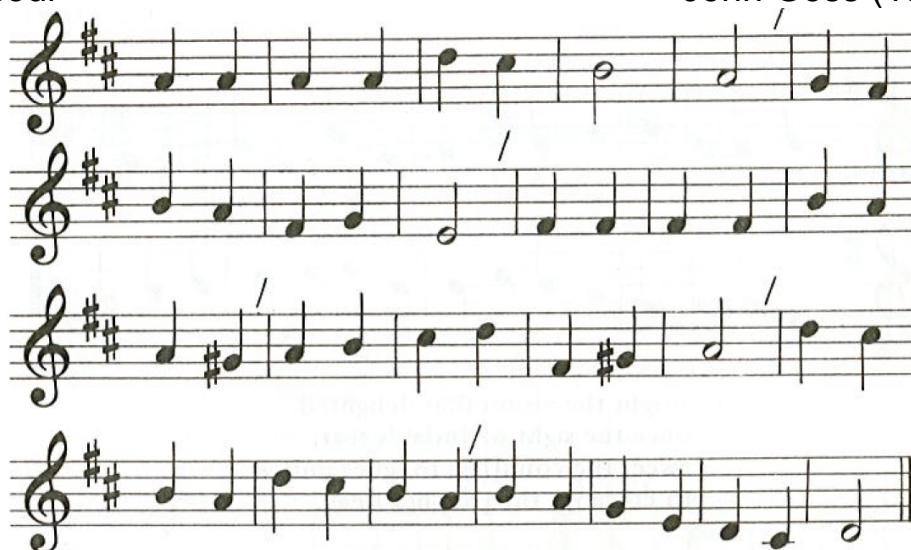
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Praise, my soul

John Goss (1800-1880)



1. Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love and peace,
Source and end of human knowledge
grace bestowing without cease.
Celebrate our God's great glory,
power to rescue and release.
2. Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost,
heals the sick, upsets religion,
fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence,
friend and stranger, guest and host.
3. Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure,
foolishness none dare deride.
4. Praise Creator, Christ and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
Thus the world shall yet believe
when shown Christ's vibrant unity.

Iona Community

Prayer of Approach

Thus the world shall yet believe
when shown "Christ's vibrant unity".

Vibrant, not dull,
LIVING, NOT DEAD.

Evolving, not fixed,
BREATHING, NOT BREATHLESS.

Laughing and weeping,
NOT SILENCE AND STONE.

Singing and rhyming,
NOT HURTING AND KILLING.

Bread in the hands of the people,
A NURTURING IN GOD.

Made by God,
FULL OF THE SPIRIT.

What we've seen in Christ,
IN HIS LIFE AND WISDOM,

what we've learned from his zeal
AND FOUND IN HIS ANGER,

what we've discovered in his humanity
AND DREAMED IN HIS DIVINITY,
IS LIFE AND HEALTH AND HOPE.
THE CREATOR, CHRIST AND SPIRIT,
WE PRAISE WITH JOY.

Praise with joy the world's Creator,
GOD OF JUSTICE, LOVE AND PEACE.

Silence

When Jesus went to the temple,
he saw much that distressed him:
THE HOUSE OF PRAYER
TURNED INTO A CIRCUS:
greed squeezing out people,
COMMERCE DISPLACING CARE.
He made a whip of cords;
HE OVERTURNED THE TABLES.

As we offer our reflections on the state of our world,
the sacred temples that we chase,
we pause in confession, saying:

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

Silence

Assurance and Response

. . . In the name of that other temple, Jesus, the Christ,
I say to you
“you are forgiven and you are free”.
**THANKS BE TO GOD,
AMEN.**

The Notices

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

Although there is no Sunday School at the moment, young ones are welcome to enjoy toys and activity sheets in the play area at the rear of the church.

Gospel Lesson: John 2: 13-22

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

Knox Singers: Bread of the World
Scottish traditional, arr. Allan Bullard (b. 1947)

Sermon: “The house of God not made with hands”

*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.*

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*To the minister’s words “Cleanse the temple;”
you are invited to respond “**DRAW US TOWARDS EASTER.**”*

. . . **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 Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness, we have this money to offer,
which we have earned
using the talents that you have given us.
It will further the work of your kingdom.
BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.
**BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER,
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, 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.

Communion Hymn:

Wareham

Later form of melody by William Knapp (1698-1786)



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 so 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.*

We sit for

The Invitation, Institution, Setting apart of the Elements

The Great Eucharistic Prayer:

May God be with you.

AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Lift up your hearts.

WE LIFT THEM TO GOD.

Let us give thanks to the world's creator.
IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.
It is right indeed . . .

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God:

Jesus, Lamb of God,
HAVE MERCY ON US.
JESUS, BEARER OF OUR SINS,
HAVE MERCY ON US.
JESUS, REDEEMER OF THE WORLD,
GRANT US YOUR PEACE.

The Communion

*For the distribution, please come forward to the table,
receive some bread from the loaf, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat.
If you prefer non-alcoholic grape juice or gluten free bread
please take communion from the server with the communion tray.*

The Prayer After Communion

Eternal God,
we give you thanks and praise
that while we were still far off
you met us in your Son, and brought us home.

**MAY WE WHO SHARE HIS BREAD
LIVE HIS RISEN LIFE;
WE WHO DRINK HIS CUP
BRING LIFE TO OTHERS;
WE WHOM THE SPIRIT LIGHTS
GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD,
THAT ALL YOUR CHILDREN SHALL BE FREE,
AND THE WHOLE EARTH LIVE TO PRAISE YOUR NAME.
AMEN.**

Hymn:

Dunedin

Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985)



1. Where mountains rise to open skies
your name, O God, is echoed far,
from island beach to kauri's reach,
in water's light, in lake and star.
2. Your people's heart, your people's part
be in our caring for this land,
for faith to flower, for aroha
to let each other's mana stand.
3. From broken word, from conflict stirred,
from lack of vision, set us free
to see the line of your design,
to feel creation's energy.
4. Your love be known, compassion shown,
that every child have equal scope:
in justice done, in trust begun
shall be our heritage and hope.
5. Where mountains rise to open skies
your way of peace distil the air,
your spirit bind all humankind,
one covenant of life to share!

Shirley Murray (b. 1931)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Christe, du Lamm Gottes
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 4 March – 10 March 2018

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Next Week: 11 March – 17 March 2018

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Parish Picnic - Sunday 4 March at about noon. Bring your own food, drink and chair and relax with other Knox folk in the shade of the beautiful trees at Abberley Park. If the weather is not so good we'll meet in the Knox lounge instead.

Knox Fireside Group – Next meeting of the Knox Fireside Group will be on Monday 19th March at 7.30pm in the Knox Lounge. Marjorie Colombus will be the speaker and talk about her recent travels. All Welcome.

Easter Day Breakfast – 1 April 2018

As we have done in other years we will be celebrating with breakfast on Easter Day 1st April. Breakfast will be served from 8.30-9am in the Knox Lounge.

Breakfast – Fruit and Cereal, Scrambled Eggs and Bacon, Toast and Spread, Tea and Coffee. Cost \$5 per person (children free).

Durham St and St Luke's have been invited to join us. There are clipboards by both doors to be filled in by Sunday 25th march. We need to get an idea of numbers for food ordering, but there will be food for extras.

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 janmwil507@gmail.com

**A parable by Tom Harpur,
from his book “For Christ’s Sake”, abridged.**

There was once a vast, rocky wilderness, void of all vegetation but the hardiest thorns and briers. Through the middle of the desert stretched a rough highway along which the whole of humanity was making its pilgrimage. They struggled along footsore and thirsty, tired and frightened by a myriad of nameless fears.

But at one point along the way a clear spring of running water bubbled up out of the naked rock. No one knows who first discovered it; that secret has long since been lost. Yet for generations the people journeying along the road stopped to refresh themselves there. And as they did so, they found to their surprise and delight that the waters not only slaked their thirst, but satisfied deeper needs as well. Somehow in drinking at that source they found their minds and bodies healed, their hopes and courage growing strong again . . . They called the spot “the place of living waters” and the spring itself “the water of life”.

Now, as time went on various people began to roll up boulders around the spring as monuments of gratitude. As the generations and centuries passed, the monuments became more elaborate and ornate, until at last the spring was totally enclosed, arched over by a great fortress-like cathedral and protected by high stone walls. A special caste of men, with special robes and a language all their own, came into being to set rules for preserving the purity of the well. Access was no longer free to all, and disagreements as to who could drink there, and when, and how, sometimes grew so bitter that wars were fought over them . . . [Eventually] the spring itself was bricked over and lost from view . . .

And so, in the end the vast majority of people who journeyed along that route avoided the now-sacred “place of living waters” and survived whatever way they could. Many, when they passed the shrine and recalled the stories they had learned in youth about the hidden spring, were seized with nostalgia and longings too deep to utter. Others struggled on embittered by cynical doubt that the healing waters had ever existed. But sometimes at night, when all the chanting and ceremonies were stilled, those few pilgrims who stole into the shrine to rest for a moment in some corner out of sight were sure they could hear an almost miraculous sound. From somewhere deep under the foundations of the great rock structure there came the faint echoes of running water. And their eyes would brim with tears.



Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 107: 1-3, 17-22
- Ephesians 2: 1-10

Knox Directory

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for emergencies (03) 3570 111
Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
ph. (03) 338 7203

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

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland
ph. 0273560215



website



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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