



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 29 April 2018



Pruned or Crushed?

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, who makes us branches of the true vine;
Jesus, who asks us to bear much fruit;
Jesus, to abide in whose love will bring us joy;**

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

Hymn:

Breslau



We sing the praise of him who died,
of him who died upon the cross;
the sinner's hope let none deride,
for this we count the world but loss.

Inscribed upon the cross we see
in shining letters, 'God is love';
he bears our sins upon the tree;
he brings us mercy from above.

The cross! It takes our guilt away:
it holds the fainting spirit up;
it cheers with hope the gloomy day,
and sweetens every bitter cup.

It makes the coward spirit brave,
and nerves the feeble arm for fight;
it takes its terror from the grave,
and gilds the bed of death with light:

The balm of life, the cure of woe,
the measure and the pledge of love,
the sinner's refuge here below,
the angels' theme in heaven above.

Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

Prayer of Approach

The mystery of your love for us is beyond our comprehension, O God. We prefer the safety of systems we understand and institutions we can control.

In Christ give us the courage to trust your freedom.

You came among us as one of us and lived with all our ambiguity and confusion, yet held fast to your purpose to make us fruitful branches of your vine..

In Christ give us the courage to trust your obedience.

For us you suffered injustice and died on the cross rather than give up your desire to embrace us.

In Christ give us the courage to trust your resolve.

Your new life shines out in resurrection glory, pouring out your Spirit on us and all creation for those who will accept and be nourished by it.

In Christ give us the courage to trust your hopefulness.

The mystery of your love for us is beyond our comprehension, O God. give us grateful hearts that you have reached out to us and called us to yourself.

In Christ give us the courage to trust your generosity.

Silence

Our hope is fragile and our resolve tentative, O God. We are often anxious and afraid. We fail to live the fulness of life you hold out to us in Christ. You are a God of grace and deep compassion. You call us in Christ to trust your love and your forgiveness. And so we pray:

Lord have mercy.

CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

God our creator brings us new life, forgives and redeems us. Take hold of this forgiveness and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

In the name of Christ I say to you:

You are forgiven and you are free.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

AMEN.

Prayer of Supplication:

You call us to a childlike trust in you, O God. You would nourish us by your life flowing through the vine of Christ.

Make us fruitful branches of the true vine.

We are tentative in our being grafted into Christ. The world does not always encourage embrace and we are tempted to close the door.

Make us fruitful branches of the true vine.

Your way of love invites us to open ourselves to the world around us and not to avoid the world's pain; to embrace our neighbours as gifts from you, O God.

Help us to serve them as our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Make us fruitful branches of the true vine.

You, O God, are the gardener, growing in and through us a people to be your community of love and inclusion.

Make us fruitful branches of the true vine.

We pray this in the spirit of Christ, for we do so even as Jesus taught us, saying:

**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 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 15:1-8

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST THE WORD.

Second Lesson:

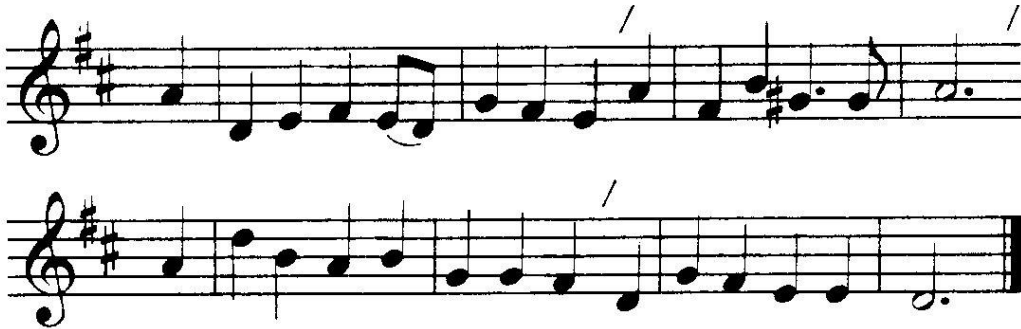
1 John 4:7-21

In this is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn:

St Bernard



In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ all true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north.
All Christlike souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

John Oxenham (1852-1941)

Sermon:

“Pruned or Crushed”

*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:

“Pastoral Prelude” - Jean Langlais

Hymn:

Down Ampney



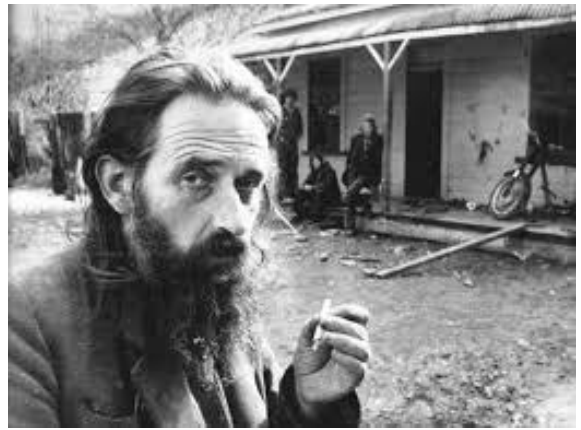
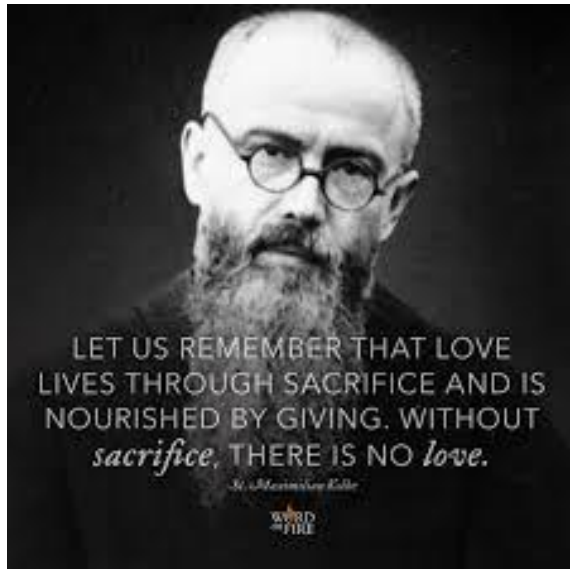
Come down, O Love divine,
seek thou this soul of mine,
and visit it with thine own ardour glowing;
O Comforter, draw near,
within my heart appear,
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.

There let it freely burn,
till earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let thy glorious light
shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illumining.

And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace,
till love create a place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes its dwelling.

Bianco da Siena (1367-1434)

trs Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)



Prayers for Others and Ourselves:

led by Kim Bathgate.

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

We offer you, O God, these tokens of the fruit you are producing in us through the life of the vine that nourishes us.

May we become the wine of the gospel.

May we be the aroma of Christ in the world.

May our gifts enrich the lives of those in need

Notices

Hymn:

Crucifer



**Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his glorious name!**

**Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
if we are silent, even stones cry out.**

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his glorious name!***

**Jesus, you wept to see our human strife,
teach us compassion for each human life.**

Lift high the cross, . . .

**Peace was your plea, and peace your loving theme,
let peace be our passport, peace a living dream.**

Lift high the cross, . . .

**Great is the cost of walking on this road,
to follow and suffer with the Son of God.**

Lift high the cross, . . .

**Worlds to be born and children yet to be
come, take up this song into eternity.**

Lift high the cross, . . .

Shirley Murray (1931-)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: "Toccata in F" - Buxtehude

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 29 April – 5 May 2018

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.15am	Book Group – <i>see below</i>
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Next Week: 6 May – 12 May 2018

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	2.00pm	Voices for the Earth – <i>see below</i>
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study
	2.00pm	Afternoon Communion – <i>see below</i>

Book Group – 11.15am in the Committee Room. Kim Bathgate will give a presentation about cartoons. Please bring along a favourite cartoon. All welcome.

Behn Quartet Concert at The Piano - Tuesday, 01 May at 7:30pm

The Behn Quartet are four young women, Kate Oswin (1st Violin) from Christchurch, New Zealand, Alicia Berendse (2nd Violin) from the Netherlands, Lydia Abell (Viola) from Wales, and Ghislaine McMullin (Cello) from England, who met at the Royal Academy of Music in London. They take their name from Aphra Behn, the seventeenth century female playwright, political activist and philanthropist of the arts. The quartet has won some prizes and competitions in Europe. During April / May they are coming out to NZ to do a tour for Chamber Music New Zealand; hence their concert at The Piano, which is the final stop on their ten concert tour. They will play the 'American' quartet by Dvorak, Ravel's quartet, and 'Three Transcriptions' by NZ composer Jack Body.

You may find out more about the quartet at their website <https://www.behnquartet.com> and hear some tracks which they have recorded:

Tickets can be purchased for the Behn Quartet's concert at The Piano on Tuesday, 01 May commencing at 7:30pm or at the following link:

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2018/behn-string-quartet-at-christophers-classics/christchurch/tickets>

Musica Balkanica Choir – Saturday 5th May, 7.30pm at Knox Church. "Treasures of the Balkans" Spiritual Chants and Songs from Orthodox Tradition. Entry by koha.

Voices for the Earth - Talk on Climate Change. Sunday 6th May. Seminar 2-5pm in the Hall. Seminar speakers include Bronwyn Hayward, author of "Sea Change: Climate Politics and New Zealand".

Liedertafel Male Voice Choir – presents Songs of Screen and Stage. Sunday 6 May 2.15pm at St Andrews College Chapel, Normans Road. Programme entry \$15. Musical Director – Daniel Cooper. Accompanist – Lynley Fuglestad.

Afternoon Communion – Wednesday 9th May at 2pm followed by Afternoon Tea in the Chapel. (Postponed from 11th April). All welcome.

SOS for knitters and 100% wool donations for the New Born Babies on the Birthing Suite at Christchurch Women's Hospital. The Birthing Suite are desperate for hats, singlets, cardigans and booties in new born size. It must be pure wool and not acrylic. (*The benefit of wool is that it can help with stabilising a baby's body temperature. Because it is a natural fibre it breathes, so there is less moisture build up. It is also flame resistant, keeps warm in winter and cool in summer, is stain resistant, biodegradable and soft* – Mary Campbell CDHB). These can be sent to the Fetal Medicine Unit at Christchurch Women's Hospital, alternatively Sandra Wilson (St Albans Community Centre Manager) can pick up. Please put a note of who or where they are from as they would like to put a Thank You in the CDHB newsletter.

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 may be:

- Deuteronomy 8: 7-10
- Genesis 1: 27-31

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
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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
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Director of Music: Daniel Cooper,
organist@knoxchurch.co.nz

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland
ph. 027 356 0215



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