



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 13 May 2018



A COMMUNION SERVICE for Ascension Day

“When he had said this, as they were watching,
he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.”

Acts 1: 9

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.

This is a communion service. On the understanding that God desires to nurture people at every stage of their journey, 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, WHO WALKED THE DUSTY PATHS OF PALESTINE;
JESUS, WHO IS PRESENT WHEN ONE OR TWO GATHER IN HIS NAME;
JESUS, CALLING US INTO THE PEACE OF THE NEW CREATION.**

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. Hallelujah! sing to Jesus,
his the sceptre, his the throne;
hallelujah! his the triumph,
his the victory alone;
hark, the songs of peaceful Zion
thunder like a mighty flood:
"Jesus out of every nation
has redeemed us for our good."
2. Hallelujah! not as orphans,
are we left in sorrow now;
hallelujah! he is near us,
faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received him
when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?
3. Hallelujah! bread of heaven,
and on earth our food, our stay;
hallelujah! here your people
flee to you from day to day;
intercessor, friend of sinners,
earth's redeemer, plead for me
where the songs of all the sinless
sweep across the crystal sea.
4. Hallelujah! King eternal,
you the Lord of lords we own;
hallelujah! born of Mary,
earth your footstool, heav'n your throne:
you within the veil have entered,
robed in flesh, our great high priest;
you on earth both priest and victim
in the Eucharistic feast.

William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898)

Prayer of Approach

Alleluia, sing to Jesus.

ALLELUIA!

You came into our experience,
a carpenter from Nazareth,
baptised in a river by John.

ALLELUIA!

You spoke of a kingdom,
telling stories of seeds and trees,
and vines and branches,
of parents running out to embrace the prodigal.
You caught our imagination.

ALLELUIA!

You showed such character and dignity.
You lived well and made us proud.
You made us want to live better.

ALLELUIA!

Having suffered such indignity,
such cruelty and death,
you came again in mystery and life.
You drew our hearts to eternity.

ALLELUIA!

And when finally we saw you no more,
when cloud hid you from our eyes,
we found that everything had changed:
God was with us.

ALLELUIA, SING TO JESUS.

ALLELUIA!

We do not always sing alleluias to Jesus.
We sing songs of self and selfishness.
We give our voices to chants of cruelty.
We give our words to horror and violence.
So, confessing, we sing,

$\text{♩} = 70$ Lord have mercy

(organ)

Lord have mercy,

Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.

[. . . 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.
AMEN.

The Notices

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

The Litany for Mothers' Day:

All who gather here are sons or daughters.
**WE PRAISE GOD FOR THE WOMEN
WHO GAVE US LIFE.**

For mothers brave, strong, compassionate,
full of wisdom and grace,
WE GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE.

For mothers vulnerable, worried, frustrated,
and hurried,
WE PRAY FOR PEACE.

For relationships that are strained and no
longer a source of joy,
WE PRAY FOR HEALING.

For mothers who have died, who live no
longer with us, but whose light shines on in
our hearts and memories,
**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO MOURN,
AND GIVE GOD THANKS FOR LIFE
ETERNAL.**



For mothers who grieve, who have lost children born or unborn,
WE WEEP WITH THOSE WITH BROKEN HEARTS.

For those who are struggling to raise children, who are tired and weary,
**WE PRAY THAT WE MAY BE THEIR VILLAGE,
OFFERING REAL HELP IN HARD TIMES.**

For those who are preparing emptier nests,
**WE BOTH CELEBRATE AND MOURN WITH YOU,
AND HOPE THEIR WINGS ARE AS STRONG AS THEIR ROOTS ARE DEEP.**

For stepmothers, navigating the pitfalls and joys of creating a new family,
WE PRAY FOR WISDOM AND PATIENCE.

For grandmothers who are doing the hard work of raising children again,
WE PRAY THE CAREGIVERS HAVE THOSE WHO CARE FOR THEM.

For the mothers, sisters, daughters in our midst and around the world,
for the women who, created in the image of God,
give not just life, but abundant life,
for women fighting, struggling, and sweating for the sake of others,
for women caring, compassionate, and crying with the heart of Christ,
for the caregivers, prophets, preachers, teachers, leaders, shepherds, healers,
for mothers, in their wide variety and many forms,
WE GIVE GOD THANKS AND PRAISE.

Adapted from Rev. Robb McCoy's Litany, <http://fatpastor.me>

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.

Scripture Lesson: Acts 1: 1-11

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

Sermon: "A book review"

*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: Herr Jesu Christ, dich zu uns wend, BWV 709
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

To the minister's words "Ascended Jesus,"
you are invited to respond **"WRITE YOUR STORY ON OUR WORLD"**.

. . . for we pray it, as Jesus taught us to, joining together and singing:

= 80 **Our Father**

Our Fa - ther in he - aven, hal - lowed be your name,
your king - dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav'n.
Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, for - give us our sins, as
we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al, and de -
li - ver us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the po'wer and the Glo - ry, are yours,
now and for - ev - er. A - men.

[. . . **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:

Ellacombe

melody from Mainz Gesangbuch, 1833





1. O Christ, when you ascended, you took your rightful throne;
your time on earth had ended — yet we weren't left alone.
You reign o'er earth and heaven; your Spirit guides our way.
Your prayers uphold your people; you lead your church each day.
2. We look at earthly rulers, and see what they command:
we note their years of power, the borders of their land.
Yet, Lord, you are not bounded by things like time and space;
your reign is never-ending, you rule in every place.
3. We're tempted. Lord, to leave you in stories nicely told;
sometimes we don't believe you and say your ways are old.
Sometimes we feel so lonely, and live in doubt and fear —
but your ascension means, Lord, you're present with us here.
4. One day, O Lord, we'll know you, as we are fully known;
one day this world of sinners will bow before your throne.
One day, God's whole creation will sing and praise your name;
on earth as now in heaven, we'll celebrate your reign.

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (b. 1961)

We sit for

The Invitation, Institution, and the 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:

$\text{♩} = 70$

Lamb of God

Je - sus, lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - dee - mer of the world, grant us your peace.

**[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:

Laast Uns Erfreuen

from Geistliche Kirchengesäng 1623



1. From all who dwell below the skies,
let the Creator's praise arise;
Hallelujah!
Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
through every land, by every tongue.
Hallelujah!
2. Eternal are your mercies, God,
eternal truth attends your word:
Hallelujah!
Your praise shall sound from shore to shore,
till suns shall rise and set no more.
Hallelujah!

Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue on a theme by Vittoria
Benjamin Britten (1913-1976)

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

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Giotto (c. 1305)



Ubisi Monastery in Georgia - painter and date unknown



Salvador Dali (1958)





NOTICES

This Week: 13 May – 19 May 2018

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
4.00pm Film Group – **see below**
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 20 May – 26 May 2018

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship - combined with Durham St
Monday 7.30pm Knox Fireside Group – **see below**
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

End of year statements for regular donors

End of the Financial Year Statements recording your regular donations to Knox are available for collection in the foyer. This documentation is required for refund claims from the IRD.

Janet Wilson Donations Secretary.

Film Group – This Sunday, 13 May at 4pm in Lounge. Following our excellent presentation of cartoons by Kim, we will watch the film *A Dogs tail*, the full length animated film based on the beloved *Footrot Flats* by Murray Bell. See Wal and Dog and their friends and family!

ECU Action – This Sunday, 13 May 7 – 8.30pm in the Hall - *What on Earth is God doing about unity?* Stories of Justice, Peace and Hope. Speakers – Ngaire Button, Rev Ben Truman, Father Frank Kelly and Rev Sheena Dickson. Supper served afterwards. Free / koha. Contact Mary 021387088, Brian 0211294305.

Laidlaw College Open Day – Thursday 17 May, 4 – 8 pm. If you are interested in studying the Bible, theology, Christian leadership, counseling or teaching then we would love to meet you and have a chat. Drop in any time between 4-8pm and our staff will be available to talk about how study at Laidlaw can help. If you can't make it in person please call us on 03 354 4270.

Knox Fireside - will meet on Monday 21 May at 7 30pm in the Knox lounge. The Speaker will be from Age Concern who will talk about getting Older and living well and how Age Concern can assist. All are welcome as this will be of interest to all (as we all are getting older !)

Atlas Voices Presents – Momentum – Past, Present, Future – Works by Laurison, Childs, Stroope, Ritchie, Gjeilo and Mozart. Featuring an encore performance of *When David Heard* by Eric Whitacre. Sunday 27 May 2.30pm at Knox Church. Tickets \$30. Book now at www.atlasvoices.nz

Interfaith Presentation and Discussion on Gender – Wednesday 30 May, 7-9pm (doors open at 6.45pm) at Baha'i Centre, 31 Domain Terrace, Spreydon. Parking on site. Free/koha appreciated. Light refreshments to follow.

Daniel Cooper Organ – Honours Exam Recital Friday 15th June 5.10pm, Knox Church. Free entry. **Children under 5 are not permitted as this is a formal examination**

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 janmwil507@gmail.com



Bible readings for next week will be:

- Acts 2: 1-21
- John 15: 26-27, 16: 4b-15

Knox Directory

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Secretary: Jane Ellis,
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Office hours: Mon-Fri 9.00am-noon

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack
minister@knoxchurch.co.nz
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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



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