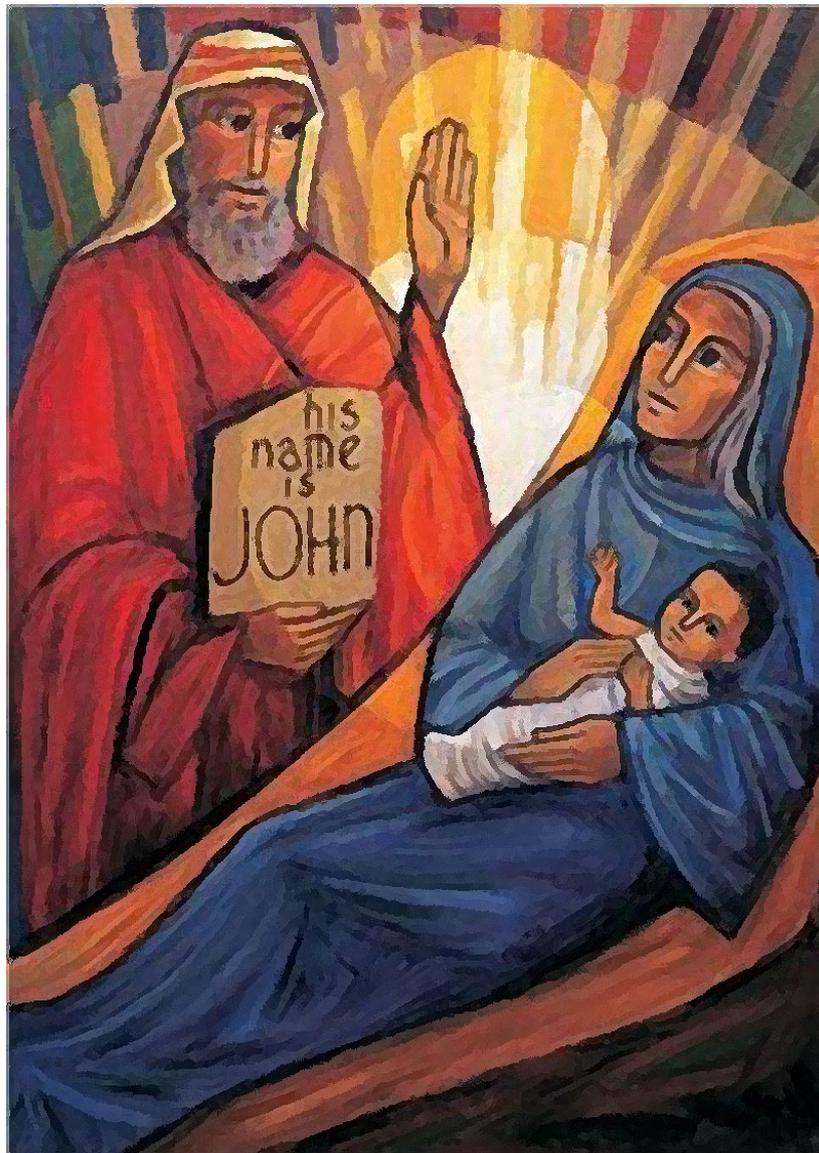




KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 9 December 2018



**NURTURED
INTO LIGHT AND PEACE**

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.

A special welcome today to our guest organist, Barry Brinson

The Call to Worship:

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.
**JESUS, PROCLAIMED BY JOHN TO BE THE LAMB OF GOD,
GOD'S TENDER COMPASSION, DAWNING FROM ON HIGH,
GUIDING US FROM THE SHADOWS INTO LIGHT AND PEACE.**

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

Hymn:

Winchester New

William Henry Havergal (1793-1870)



1. The Baptist shouts on Jordan's shore,
the earth shakes with the mighty roar,
awake, let lazy sleep now flee:
behold, the voice of prophecy!
2. The earth and sky and sea now feel
that which their Author will reveal:
the Child now leaping in the womb
as God does human form assume.

3. Clean up your hearts, lay down the way,
for God approaches day by day;
prepare for such a worthy heir,
for such a guest your house prepare.
4. Through you, O Jesus, you alone
salvation, solace, strength are known;
without your love we fade like grass,
like wilted flowers our lives will pass.

5. O One who comes to set us free,
O Child, to you our song will be,
with Father, Spirit mothering,
to you shall praise for ever ring!

Charles Coffin (1676-1749)
tr. John Chandler (1806-1876) and others, alt.

Prayer of Approach

John the Baptist
appears in the wilderness,
all confidence and directness,
all prophecy and drive.

**AWAKE, LET LAZY SLEEP NOW FLEE!
BEHOLD, THE VOICE OF PROPHECY!**

“Make straight the way of God”, he cries.
Flatten the mountains,
fill the valleys!

**CLEAN UP YOUR HEARTS, LAY DOWN THE WAY,
FOR GOD APPROACHES DAY BY DAY.**

The Baptist sings a song of urgency and crisis.
He sings of here and now.

**PREPARE FOR SUCH A WORTHY HEIR,
FOR SUCH AS GUEST THIS HOUSE PREPARE.**

From some years before
another song is sung
by a father
cradling his child.
He sings of hope and destiny,
of nurturing a life for fulfilment in God.

**THE FATHER OF JOHN
SINGS FOR HIS CHILD.**

The child is nurtured,
given daily bread
and food from heaven.

**AS NURTURING OCCURS,
THE PURPOSES OF GOD FIND FORM.**

Silence

We confess that we have not always nurtured the good,
not always fostered the holy,
not always cared for the child,
not always listened to the prophet.

**WE HAVE GIVEN OURSELVES
TO THE SINGING OF OTHER SONGS
THAT DO NOT MAKE FOR PEACE.**

So 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:

God of nurturing love,
as your children care for one another,
your will is done
and fulfilment comes forth.
**ENABLE US TO LEARN YOUR WAYS,
TO DO YOUR WORK,
AND TO LIVE IN PEACE.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,
using the words he taught us.

**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

The Advent Wreath of Peace:

The Candle of Compassion and Kindness

“In the tender compassion of our God, the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.” [Luke 1: 78-79]

. . . We light a candle, seeking peace for the world through compassion and kindness.

(The candle is lit)

Make us people of Advent peace, O Christ.
AMEN! COME, LORD JESUS.



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.

The First Lesson: Luke 1: 68-79

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

The Knox Singers: The Lord will soon appear
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

The Second Lesson: Luke 3: 1-6

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Hymn:

Merton

William Henry Monk (1823-1889)



1. Hark! a herald voice is calling:
"Christ is near," it seems to say,
"cast away the dreams of darkness,
waken, children of the day!"
2. Wakened by the solemn warning
let the earth-bound soul arise;
Christ, her sun, all sloth dispelling,
shines upon the morning skies.
3. Lo, the Lamb so long expected
comes with pardon down from heaven;
let us meet him with repentance,
pray that we may be forgiven.
4. So when love comes forth in judgment,
debts and doubts and wrongs to clear,
faithful may he find his servants
watching till the dawn appear.

Words: Anon

Sermon: Two songs and nurture

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.

Hymn:
Hyfrydol

Rowland Huw Prichard (1811-1887)



1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Len Pierce



“St Elizabeth”, a statue by **SENYE** (1854-1919),
installation in St. Stephen’s Basilica, Budapest.

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Generous and creative God,
from little children you grow fearless prophets.
From a father's song you draw a mighty liberation.

**BLESS AND NURTURE US,
AND THE OFFERING WE MAKE,
THAT GREAT AND GOOD THINGS
MAY BLESS THE WORLD. AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Wolvercote

William Harold Ferguson (1874-1950)



1. O Jesus, I have promised
to serve you to the end;
Lord, be for ever near me,
my master and my friend:
I shall not fear the battle
if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway
if you will be my guide.
2. O let me feel you near me:
the world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle,
the tempting sounds I hear;
my foes are ever near me,
around me and within;
but, Jesus, draw me nearer,
and shield my soul from sin.
3. O let me hear you speaking
in accents clear and still,
above the storms of passion,
the murmurs of self-will;
Lord, speak to reassure me,
to chasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
true guardian of my soul.
4. Lord, let me see your footmarks
and in them plant my own;
that I may follow boldly
and in your strength alone:
O guide me, call me, draw me,
uphold me to the end;
and then in heaven receive me,
my Saviour and my friend.

John Ernest Bode (1734-1820)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Improvisation on “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
Barry Brinson

**Today a fancy morning tea, with tea and coffee,
will be served in the church following the morning service**

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NOTICES

This Week: **9 December – 15th December 2018**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship

Next Week: **16 December – 22nd December 2018**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship

Carols at Riccarton Bush, 6.30pm, Sunday 9 December 2018. Hosted by Riccarton-Spreydon Anglican Parish (St Martin's and St James). Come and join us in singing Christmas Carols.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING POSTPONED - The congregational meeting planned for 16 December will now be postponed till the new year because details of estimated costs for the Knox Centre strengthening project are not yet available.

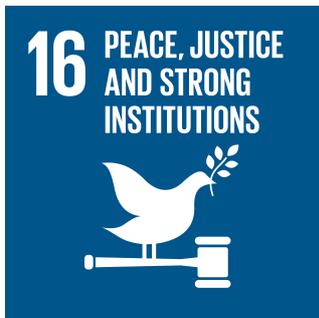
Christmas baking – Many, many thanks to all who assisted in any way with this year's Christmas Baking. \$2160 has been banked - a very good effort indeed.

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

CHRISTIAN WORLD SERVICE CHRISTMAS APPEAL

The 2018 Appeal puts the spotlight on our responsibilities to each other and the planet our home. In 2015, the United Nations agreed to a new agenda for sustainable development made up of 17 Sustainable Development Goals.



Goal 16 is a commitment to [promote peace](#) and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. This goal is a commitment to end violence and prevent the harm that can quickly unravel development achievements. From stopping human trafficking and conflict-related deaths to achieving more accountable government institutions and reducing corruption, achieving SDG 16 is far reaching in its ambition. While not directly addressing long standing conflicts, it aims to strengthen human rights protection including political representation and reduce illicit financial and arms flows. This goal encompasses a broad range of objectives that underpin the achievement of many of the other goals. To achieve this goal will boost achievements in the rest.



John in the wilderness, Caravaggio, c. 1604

Christmas Services

Sunday
23 December,
10:00am

A Service of
Nine Lessons and Carols
featuring the traditional
Christmas readings and lots of
festive music.



Monday
24 December,
11:15pm

A Christmas Eve service of
Carols, Candlelight and
Communion
“There shall be endless peace”



Tuesday
25 December,
10:00am

A simple celebration for
Christmas Day
“The Prince of Peace”



Services over New Year

From 30 December through to 27 January, Knox and Durham Street Methodist hold combined morning services at Knox



Sunday 30 December
10:00am

Durham Street provides leadership

Sunday 6 January
10:00am

Communion service, with Durham
Street providing leadership

Sunday 13 January, 10:00am
Durham Street provides leadership

Sundays 20 & 27 January,
10:00am

Knox provides leadership.

Sunday 3 February, 10:00am

We return to our usual service schedule.



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Zephaniah 3: 14-20
- Philippians 4: 4-7

Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave, Christchurch 8013
Secretary: Jane Ellis,
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Office hours: Mon-Fri 9.00am-noon

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack
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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

Visit our website
www.knoxchurch.co.nz



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