



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 16 December 2018

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*9 October 1989 - Leipzig, East Germany*

# LET YOUR REQUESTS BE MADE KNOWN

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## 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, WHOSE PEACE IS BEYOND HUMAN UNDERSTANDING;**

**JESUS, GUIDING AND GUARDING HEARTS AND MINDS;**

**JESUS, CALLING US TO PRAY FOR THE HEALING OF THE WORLD.**

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

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

### Hymn:

Veni Emmanuel

from Fifteenth Century French Processional



1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Christ of God appear.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice!*  
*Emmanuel shall come to you,*  
*O Israel!*
2. O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
and order all things far and nigh,  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and help us in that way to go.  
*Rejoice . . .*
3. O come, O Day-spring, come and cheer  
our spirits by your advent here;  
love stir within the womb of night,  
and death's own shadows put to flight.  
*Rejoice . . .*
4. O come, Desire of Nations, bind  
all peoples in one heart and mind;  
make envy, strife and quarrels cease;  
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
*Rejoice . . .*

*Based on antiphons from Advent Vespers,  
trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866) and others, alt.*

### **Prayer of Approach**

Rejoicing in who you are,  
rejoicing in what you have done,  
**IT IS A TIME OF GRATITUDE.**

Reflecting on the spiritual discipline of hoping,  
of knowing that not all is yet achieved,  
**IT IS A TIME OF WAITING.**

Meditating on our need to think,  
to ask, to imagine beyond what we understand,  
**IT IS A TIME OF PRAYING,**

to seek that well of water,  
to learn that depth of wisdom,  
to know the Alpha,  
while stretching to the Omega,  
**IN HEART, IN MIND, IN SOUL.**

Between the birth of old and the birth of the new creation,  
this is our prayer:  
**"O COME, O COME,  
EMMANUEL".**

*Silence*

Remembering the state of our world,  
its need, its fear, its complex want,  
**IT IS A TIME OF HEART SEARCHING.**

Remembering the hatred,  
the prejudice, the oppression,  
remembering the politics and divisions,  
**IT IS A TIME FOR SORROW.**

Remembering the contributions that we have made  
to all that ails us,  
**IT IS A TIME OF CONFESSION.**

Indeed,

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:**

Through your servant Paul, you have called us, O God,  
to make our requests known.

**GUIDE AND BLESS US, GOD,  
TO ASK FOR THE RIGHT THINGS.**

Give us lively imagination, hope and vision,  
**THAT WE SHALL KNOW HOW,  
AND FOR WHAT, TO PRAY.**

And when we have prayed,  
give us also courage to act on our prayers,  
**THAT YOUR WILL MAY NOT MERELY BE DISCERNED,  
BUT ALSO BE DONE.**

We pray this, using the words Jesus 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 Confession of need and Relinquishment of fear**

“Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”

[Philippians 4: 6-7]

. . . We light a candle, seeking peace for the world through the confession of need and the relinquishment of fear.

*(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:**

Zephaniah 3: 14-20

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



**A Trio:**

Angels' Carol  
John Rutter (b. 1945)

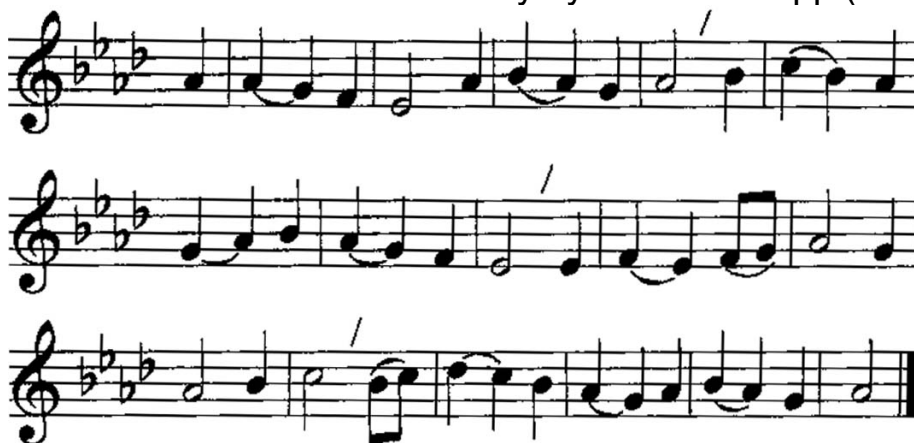
**The Second Lesson:** Philippians 4: 4-7

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

**Hymn:**

Wareham

later form of melody by William Knapp (1698-1768)



- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Where high the heavenly temple stands,<br>the house of God not made with hands,<br>a great High Priest our nature wears,<br>the guardian of all life appears. | 3. Though now ascended up on high,<br>he bends on earth a brother's eye;<br>partaker of the human name,<br>he knows the frailty of our frame.            |
| 2. He who for us our surety stood,<br>and lived on earth a life so good,<br>pursues in heaven his mighty call,<br>the saviour and the friend of all.             | 4. With boldness, therefore, at the throne<br>let us make all our sorrows known;<br>and ask the aid of heavenly power<br>to help us in the testing hour. |

*Paraphrase by Michael Bruce (1746-1767)  
or possibly by John Logan (1748-1788)*

**Sermon:** Letting the request be known

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.

"When the missionaries came to Africa they had the Bible and we had the land. They said 'Let us pray.' We closed our eyes. When we opened them we had the Bible and they had the land."

*Desmond Tutu*

**Hymn:**  
Leoni

Thomas Olivers (1725-1799)



- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Community of Christ,<br>who make the Cross your own,<br>live out your creed and risk your life<br>for God alone:<br>the God who wears your face,<br>to whom all worlds belong,<br>whose children are of every race<br>and every song.      | 3. Community of Christ,<br>through whom the word must sound --<br>cry out for justice and for peace<br>the whole world round:<br>disarm the powers that war<br>and all that can destroy,<br>turn bombs to bread, and tears of<br>anguish<br>into joy. |
| 2. Community of Christ,<br>look past the Church's door<br>and see the refugee, the hungry,<br>and the poor.<br>Take hands with the oppressed,<br>the jobless in your street,<br>take towel and water, that you wash<br>your neighbour's feet. | 4. When menace melts away,<br>so shall God's will be done,<br>the climate of the world be peace<br>and Christ its Sun;<br>our currency be love<br>and kindness our law,<br>our food and faith be shared as one<br>for evermore.                       |

*Shirley Murray (b. 1931)*

**Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Bob Fendall*

## The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

O, for a world where no one is hungry!

**O, FOR A WORLD WHERE NO ONE IS COLD!**

O, for a world where wealth is shared,

**AND LIFE IS ENRICHED!**

These are our requests,

**FOR WHICH WE GIVE OURSELVES.**

In Jesus' name,

**AMEN.**

## Notices

### Hymn:

Darwall's 148th

John Darwall (1731-1789)



- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Rejoice, give thanks and sing;<br>your Sovereign God adore!<br>For Christ has robbed death's sting<br>and triumphs evermore.<br>Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!<br>Rejoice, again I say, rejoice. | 3. Christ Jesus cannot fail<br>to rule both earth and heaven;<br>the keys of death and hell<br>are to the Saviour given.<br>Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!<br>Rejoice, again I say, rejoice. |
| 2. Our Saviour Jesus reigns,<br>the God of truth and love;<br>the Lamb who purged our stains<br>is crowned with power above.<br>Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!<br>Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.    | 4. Rejoice in glorious hope,<br>for Christ the judge shall come,<br>and the faithful up<br>to their eternal home.<br>We soon shall hear a heavenly voice<br>above the trumpet's sound, "Rejoice!"     |

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*



## **Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Jazz Carols  
Christopher Norton (b. 1953)

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



## **NOTICES**

**This Week:** 16 December – 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2018  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship

**Next Week:** 23<sup>rd</sup> December – 29<sup>th</sup> December 2018  
Sunday 10.00am Nine Lessons and Carols  
Monday 11.15pm Christmas Eve Service  
Tuesday 10.00am Christmas Day Service

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING POSTPONED** - The congregational meeting planned for today, 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.

**HELPERS WANTED!!!** – To deliver the Flyers advertising our Knox Christmas Services to the local area. Please talk to Bronwyn Wiltshire.

**ACTING COUNCIL CLERK** – Jean Brouwer will be Acting Council Clerk, 22<sup>nd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> December. She may be contacted on 355 6534

**CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE** – Knox Church Office will be closed from midday Friday 21 December until 9am Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January. Any queries please contact Jean Brouwer (22 – 28<sup>th</sup> December) on 355 6534 and Janet Wilson (from 28<sup>th</sup> December) on 338 7203.

**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](mailto: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 2 is a commitment to [end hunger](#), achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture. For the third year in a row the number of hungry people has increased. In 2017, 821 million people did not get enough to eat. The majority of them live in developing countries. One in four of the world's children [suffer](#) from stunted growth. 66 million children go to school hungry.

To meet the needs of the existing population and the projected 2 billion increase by 2050 will require changes in policy and practice, especially when so much of the world's environment is downgraded. Climate change and water shortages are already putting pressure on farmers. Taken as a whole the global food system has given priority to the largest transnational corporations who control increasing amounts of its resources and international trade. New policies that recognise the importance of the 500 million small farms that provide up to 80% of the food consumed in the developing world offer opportunities to meet this goal.

According to the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) conflict is a [key driver](#) of food insecurity, pushing countries like South Sudan to famine and many others close to it. Last year 37 countries required external food assistance.

Many CWS partners include training and support for people to make the most from their small pieces of land. Using local experts, they train farmers to cut costs by using eco-agricultural/restorative/conservation farming techniques. Saving seeds, making compost and sprays, and simple irrigation systems are the first stages. Your donations fund seeds, plants, agricultural trainers and the programmes they run. In Sri Lanka, Monlar has successfully advocated for support for small farmers developing sustainable practices in government programmes.

# Christmas Services

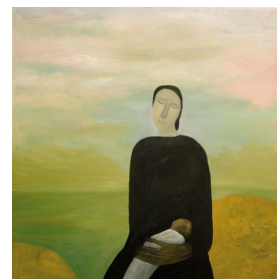
**Sunday**  
**23 December,**  
**10:00am**

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:

Genesis 3: 3-15

Isaiah 11: 1-9

Luke 2: 8-16

Genesis 22: 15-18

Luke 1: 26-38

Matthew 2: 1-11

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

Matthew 1: 18-23

John 1: 1-14

## Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave, Christchurch 8013

Secretary: Jane Ellis,

ph. (03) 379 2456,

[office@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz)

Office hours: Mon-Fri 9.00am-noon

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack

[minister@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:minister@knoxchurch.co.nz)

for emergencies, (03) 3570 111

Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,

ph. (03) 338 7203

Director of Music: Daniel Cooper,

[organist@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:organist@knoxchurch.co.nz)

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland

ph. 0273560215

Visit our website

[www.knoxchurch.co.nz](http://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