



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service Christmas Eve, 2018



There shall be endless peace

a Christmas Eve service
of carols, candle light
and communion

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

CANDLES AND COMMUNION SERVING

As you arrive tonight, you will be given a Christmas candle. During the singing of the opening hymn, candle bearers will move down the central aisles, lighting the candles of those adjacent to the aisle. Light your candle from those sitting next to you. Please be aware of where your flame is, paying particular attention to the person in front of you.

At Knox, we come forward to receive communion. Two lines form in the central aisle. Please join the line that has formed on your side of the aisle. Receive bread from the server, dip it in the communion cup, and return to your seat via the outer aisles. If, because of low light conditions or mobility issues, you feel you can't receive communion in this way, please let one of our welcomers know. We will arrange for communion to be brought to you in your seat.

The wine in the large silver communion cups contains alcohol, and the bread offered by the central servers is non-gluten free. The servers with the small trays (to the outside of the church) have small glasses of non-alcoholic grape juice and trays of gluten free bread.

If you wish to receive communion in a way that requires two hands, please hand your candle to the person behind you in the line. Please retrieve your candle from that person before he or she needs to receive communion.

Please be assured that the table at Knox is an open one. Members of any denomination, as well as any of no denomination who are seeking God sincerely, are welcome to receive communion here.

Before the service, as the congregation gathers,
the Knox Singers will sing a carol.
This is not part of the service, but courtesy is appreciated.

Hark, a herald voice is calling
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997),
Text anon, 10th Century, tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878) and others

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The Welcome

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

Opening Prayer

**. . . 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.**

We stand for
Hymn
Irby

H. J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)



Verse 1 is sung by a soloist.
Verse 2 is sung by the Knox Singers only.
The congregation starts singing at verse 3.

1. *Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle-shed
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little child.*

3. **And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love,
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heaven above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.**

2. *He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and mean and lowly
lived on earth our Saviour holy.*

4. **Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
when, like stars, his children
crowned
all in white shall wait around.**

C. F. Alexander (1818-1895)

We sit for
The Bible Lesson:

Isaiah 9: 2-7

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

The Reflection: He drives like a madman

We remain seated to sing

Hymn:

Forest Green

English traditional melody



1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie!
above thy deep and dreamless
sleep
the silent stars go by:
yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting Light;
the hopes and fears of all the
years
are met in thee tonight.
2. O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King
and peace to men on earth;
for Christ is born of Mary;
and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep the angels
keep
their watch of wondering love.
3. How silently, how silently
the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming;
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him,
still
the dear Christ enters in.
4. O holy child of Bethlehem,
descend to us we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel.

Phillips Brooks (1835-1893) alt.



The Invitation and Institution

The Setting Apart of the Elements

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, eternal God,
because in the beginning
you made a world that was beautiful and good.
Having created all creatures and people
to be at peace, one with the other,
you gave a Sabbath day -
time for us all just to rest,
**TO BE AT PEACE,
TO ENJOY THE BALANCE AND BEAUTY
OF EVERYTHING.**

"Be still" you said.
"KNOW THAT I AM GOD" YOU SAID.

"Do justice, love mercy,
WALK HUMBLY WITH ME", YOU SAID.

When we departed from the ways of peace,
strayed from the ways of naturalness and love,
you came to us again in the prophets,
who called us to remember the promise,
TO PRAY THE LOVE,

to receive the peace,
TO BE THE BLESSING.

And then you came to us one Christmas,
born a child beneath a song of glory in heaven,
**PEACE ON EARTH,
GOODWILL TO ALL.**

Even when the Prince of Peace
has suffered our worst,
had been killed on a cross and laid to rest forever,
**HE CAME AGAIN WITH LOVE
AND A GREETING OF PEACE.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit, O God,
upon us who wait for the celebration of his birth,
and upon these elements of bread and wine,
that they may become for us his body and blood.
**MAKE US ONE WITH HIM,
ONE WITH ONE ANOTHER,
AND ONE IN MINISTRY IN THE WORLD
UNTIL AT LAST WE FEAST WITH HIM IN THE KINGDOM.**

Through your Son, Jesus Christ,
all honour and glory is yours, eternal God,
now and for ever.
AMEN.

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

Communion Motet: Quem Pastores
Harmonised by Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

Anthem: Poverty Carol
Caradog Roberts (1878-1935)

Prayer: To the God who gives peace

Silence until midnight

The Reading of the Nativity: Luke 2:1-14

The Christmas Greeting

People of God,
Christ is born. God is with us.

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.**

Please blow out your candles, and greet one another with the peace of God.

Without announcement, we stand to sing

Hymn:

Mendelssohn

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

The musical score is written on five staves. The first four staves contain the main melody, and the fifth staff is the refrain. The music is in G major and 4/4 time. The refrain is marked 'Refrain' and ends with a double bar line.

Hark! the he-rald an-gels sing glo-ry to the new-born king.

1. Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born King;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled:
joyful all ye nations, rise,
join the triumph of the skies,
with th'angelic host proclaim,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born king.*
2. Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb:
veiled in flesh the God-head see;
hail th'incarnate Deity!
Pleased one earth with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born king.*
3. Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
risen with healing in his wings;
mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us all from earth,
Born to give us second birth.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
glory to the new-born king.*

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The congregation remains standing for
The Christmas Litany:

Jesus, Son of the living God,
Splendour of heaven,
GLORY BE TO YOU.

Jesus, Child in a manger,
King of Creation,
GLORY BE TO YOU.

Jesus, wonderful Counsellor,
mighty God,
everlasting Lord,
GLORY BE TO YOU.

Jesus, inexhaustible Wisdom,
our Way,
our Truth,
our Life,
GLORY BE TO YOU.

The Word was made flesh
and dwelt among us,
full of grace and truth.
THANKS BE TO GOD, AMEN.

Without announcement, we sing

Hymn:

Adeste Fideles

John Francis Wade (c.1711-1786)

The first part of the musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The first staff contains the first four measures, the second staff the next four, the third staff the next four, and the fourth staff the final four measures of this section. The music features various note values including quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, as well as rests and slurs.

Refrain

The first line of the refrain is written on a single staff of music in G major. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The melody consists of eight measures of music, primarily using quarter and eighth notes.

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a -

The second line of the refrain continues the melody on a single staff of music. It consists of eight measures, ending with a double bar line. The notation includes quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some slurs and accents.

dore him, O come, let us a-dore him, Christ the Lord!

1. O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him
born the king of angels;
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

 2. God of God,
Light of light,
lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him . . .

 3. Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing all ye citizens of heaven above.
'Glory to God,
glory in the highest':
O come, let us adore him . . .

 4. Yea, Lord we greet thee,
born on Christmas morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing:
O come let us adore Him . . .
- John Francis Wade (c.1711-1786)*

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Christmas Medley
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

The Retiring Offering

A retiring offering will be taken for the Christian World Service Christmas appeal. You can place your donation in one of the baskets held by Knox people at the exits, or you may prefer to post a donation directly to CWS using the postage paid envelope attached to the CWS leaflet.

ACTING COUNCIL CLERK - Jean Brouwer will be acting council clerk 22-28 December. She may be contacted on 355 6534.

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

Knox Directory

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Secretary: Jane Ellis,
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Visit our website
www.knoxchurch.co.nz



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