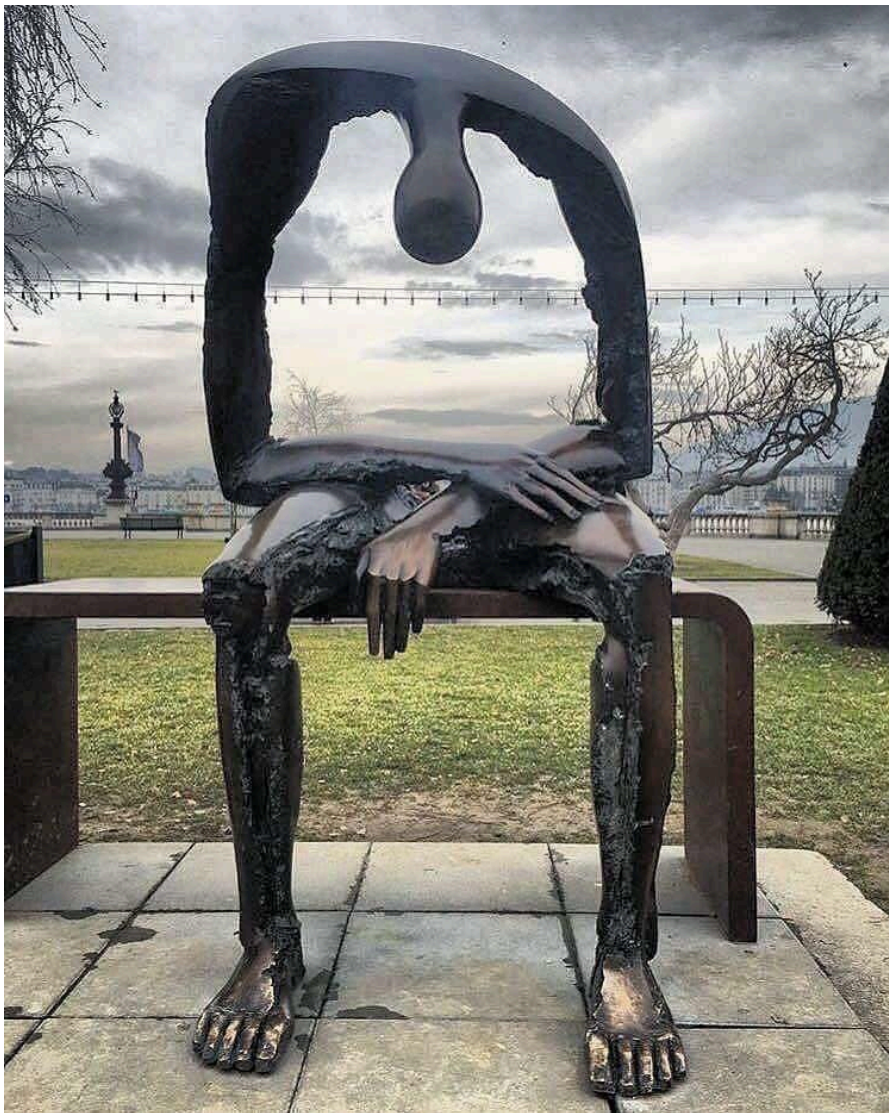




KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 24 March 2019



WILDERNESS STORIES LENT 3 - ABRAM'S FEAR

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, A TRUE CHILD OF ABRAHAM;

JESUS, LIVING WITH THE TRUE COURAGE OF GOD;

JESUS, WHOSE LIFE AND LOVE WE INHERIT.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Michael

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)



1. All my hope on God is founded:
who else can my hope renew?
Still through change and chance God guides me,

- only good and only true.
God unknown, grace alone,
calls my heart to be God's own.
2. Human pride and earthly glory,
sword and crown betray God's trust;
what with care and toil we're building,
tower and temple, fall to dust.
But God's power,
hour by hour,
is my temple and my tower.
 3. Well does the almighty Giver
bounteous gifts on us bestow!
With delight our souls are nourished;
pleasure leads us where we go.
At God's hand love does stand;
joy awaits each new command.
 4. In glad hymns to God eternal
sacrifice of praise be done,
high above all praises praising
for the love in Christ made known.
Hear Christ's call, one and all;
you who follow shall not fall.

Robert Bridges (1844-1930)
based on Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

Prayer of Approach

When the tower crumbles
and the temple falls,

**WHEN HUMAN PRIDE
TAKES A TUMBLE,**

when the sword loses its edge,
and the crown tilts on the head,
**STILL THE GIVER OF GOODNESS
STANDS FIRM AND TRUE.**

God unknown,
by grace alone
**CALLS OUR HEART
TO BE GOD'S OWN.**

From the realms of rust
and food for the moth,
**WE COME TO REST
ON THE PROMISES OF GOD.**

From the kingdoms
of fading pomp and show,
**WE COME FOR THE SOLID JOYS
AND LASTING TREASURES OF FAITH.**

From the world of broken words
and empty gestures,
**WE COME TO BE STILL
IN THE PERFECT SILENCE OF GOD.**

All our hope is founded in God.
MAY GOD BE PRAISED.

Silence

Some human beings need shelter
BECAUSE WE HAVE MADE A HOSTILE WORLD.

Some human beings need reassurance
BECAUSE WE HAVE CREATED A CULTURE OF CRITICISM.

Some human beings need healing
BECAUSE WE HAVE WOUNDED THEM.

Some human beings need joy
BECAUSE WE HAVE MADE THEM SAD.

We confess that we are making of the world a wilderness.
**WE CONFESS THAT WE FORSAKE
OUR CALLING TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER.**

Do not hide your face from me, O God.
DO NOT TURN YOUR SERVANT AWAY IN ANGER.

Do not cast us off,
O GOD OF OUR SALVATION!

Rather,

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:

You found Abram in the wilderness, O God,
a person discouraged and sad.
Beyond believing that he could offer anything good,
he was in a frightening darkness.
You accepted his offering,
and renewed your promise to him.

**ACCEPT OUR OFFERING OF PRAISE ALSO;
RENEW YOUR PROMISE TO US,
AND REMIND US OF THE LOVE
THAT IS OURS IN JESUS CHRIST.**

We pray this as he taught us to,
together 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

Young People's Blessing:

Young ones, go to your worship with our blessing.

**TAKE OUR FAITH AND HOPE;
MAKE NEW THINGS WITH WHAT YOU HAVE BEEN GIVEN.
MAY GOD BLESS AND GROW YOU.
AMEN.**

Young ones are welcome to move through to the Sala del Sol (upstairs in the Knox Centre) for well supervised, faith-based youth activities.

The First Lesson: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

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

The Second Lesson: Psalm 27

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

Hymn:

Liebster Jesu Later form of melody by Johann Rodolph Ahle (1625-1673)



1. Blessèd Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you;
let our hearts and minds be stirred
now to seek and love and fear you;
by your gospel pure and holy
teach us, Lord, to love you solely.

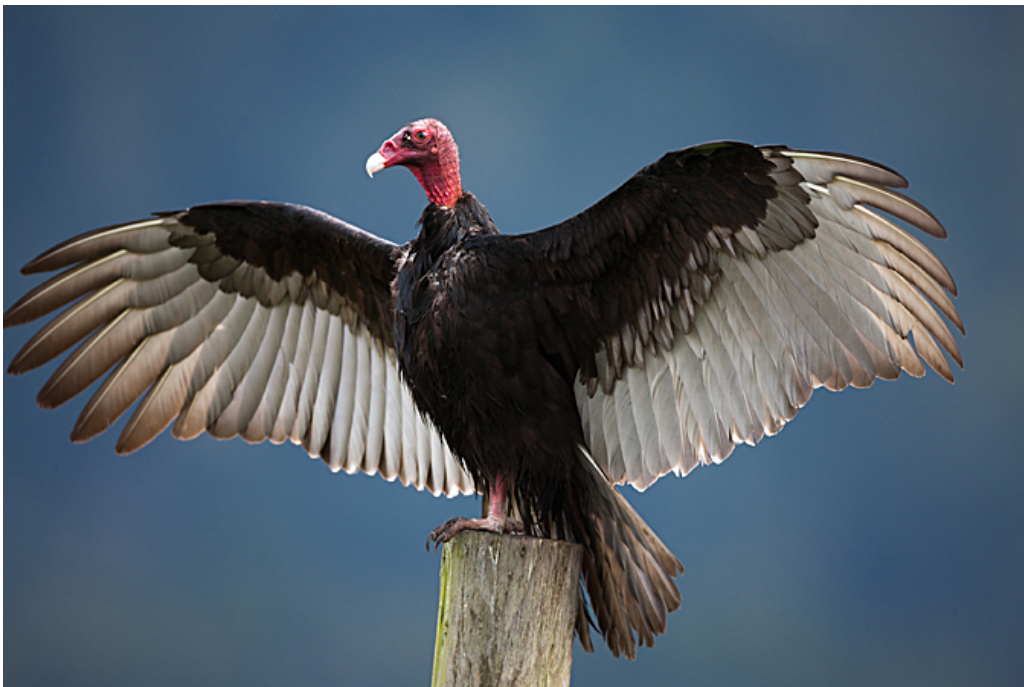
2. All our knowledge, sense and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night
with your beams of truth unclouded;
you alone to God can win us,
you must work all good within us.
3. Glorious Lord, yourself impart,
light of light from God proceeding;
open lips and ears and heart,
help us by your Spirit's leading;
hear the cry your Church now raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and praises.

Tobias Clausnitzer (1619-1684)
tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)

Sermon:

A living legacy

*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

Hymn:

Leoni

Hebrew Synagogue Melody



1. The God of Abraham praise
all praises to God's name,
who was and is and is to be,
fore'er the same!
The one eternal God,
before what now appears;
the First, the Last: beyond all thought
through timeless years!
2. The God of Sarah praise,
all praise the God of life,
who takes our fear and laughing scorn
who bears our doubt and strife,
whose promise, standing strong,
endures unto the end,
who calls our hope and worship now
to heav'n ascend.
3. God's spirit freely flows,
high surging where it will;
God spoke of old in prophets word;
that word speaks still.
Established is God's law,
and changeless it shall stand,
deep written on the human heart,
in every land.

4. God has eternal life
implanted in the soul;
God's love shall be our strength and stay,
while ages roll.
All praise the living God!
Extol that hallowed name,
who was and is, and ever shall
be still the same.

*Vv 1, 3 & 4, Thomas Olivers (1725-1799), alt.
V 2, Matthew Jack (b. 1963)*

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Andrew Johnston

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Abram had no confidence
that his offering was adequate,
**YET YOU, O GOD,
ACCEPTED IT
AND DECLARED YOUR FAITHFULNESS TO HIM.**

We make this offering, now,
in faith and hope.
**RECEIVE IT IN JESUS' NAME,
AND BLESS US TO SERVE YOU WELL.
AMEN.**

Notices

We stand for
The Lenten Litany:

O Christ,
the Pioneer and Perfecter of our faith,
you walked your journey
with dignity and love;
you encouraged your disciples
to live with courage and trust.
Along the Lenten path
LEAD US LORD JESUS.

O Christ,
faith's light and salvation;
you hide your fearful ones in shelter,
you sustain the needy
through the day of trouble.
Along the Lenten path
LEAD US LORD JESUS.

God of love,
as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us,
so may we give ourselves to you,
living according to your will.
**KEEP OUR FEET FIRMLY
IN THE WAY WHERE CHRIST LEADS US,
THIS LENT,
AND ALL OUR DAYS. AMEN.**

Hymn:
Austria

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)



1. Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God whose word cannot be broken
formed thee for a fit abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's wall surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.
2. See! the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters,
and all fear of want remove.

Who can faint while such a river
ever flows their thirst to assuage, -
grace, which, like the gracious Giver,
never fails from age to age?

3. Saviour, if of Zion's city
I, through grace, a member am,
let the world deride or pity,
I will glory in thy name.
Fading is the worldling's pleasure,
all its boasted pomp and show;
solid joys and lasting treasure
none but Zion's children know.

John Newton (1725-1807)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Meditation
Peter Hurford (1930-2019)

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

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NOTICES

This Week:	24 March – 30 March 2019
Sunday	10.00am Morning worship followed by Congregational meeting
Monday	7.30 pm Fireside Group – see below
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

Next Week:	31 March– 6 April 2019
Sunday	10.00am Morning worship 11.15am Knox Book Group – see below
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

On Sunday 24 March, immediately after the morning service, a congregational meeting will be held to ask for approval of the Knox Centre Strengthening Project.

Knox Fireside Group - Will meet on Monday March 25 at 7 30pm In the Knox Lounge. Marjorie Columbus will be the speaker Topic "Antarctica". All welcome.

Knox Book Group – Meeting on Sunday 31 March. 11.15am in Committee Room. "The Extraordinary Journey of the Fakir" by Romain Puertolas. One of the most unusual books you will ever read with a heart warming message about intercultural friendships.

The Jubilate Singers - present a choral concert "Simply Divine – Sacred music through the ages" at Knox Church at 7.30pm on Saturday 6 April. Music Director, Philip Norman, organist, Daniel Cooper, with soloists Sarah-Jane Rennie (Soprano) & James Baines (Baritone). Advance bookings: phone Vivien Hicks 0278428236 or email vivienhicks@gmail.com to order tickets \$25 includes a post-concert light supper. Door sales (cash only). www.jubilate.org.nz

The programme features glorious music on the Easter story by JS Bach, Eric Thiman, Antonio Caldara, David Griffiths, Mozart, Samuel Barber, and Elgar.

Flowers on Sundays - For several years some Knox members have quietly provided a flower arrangement to brighten a Sunday service at Knox, in a private commemoration of a personally significant date. This is a lovely tradition which we would like to encourage other Knox members to consider adopting. For the next few weeks a calendar will be in the new foyer each Sunday. If you would like to make a gift of flowers on a particular Sunday during the year please put your name on that date - or you may prefer to email/phone the Knox office to reserve the date you wish to commemorate. A reminder will come from the office as your particular date draws near. Please contact the office if you would like the Order of Service to note that the flowers are in memory of a particular person or event - this is entirely your choice and anonymity is fine. Knox has an assortment of vases in which you may place your gift of flowers and bringing a bunch or bouquet on Sunday morning before 9.30 am is fine, too. Contact Janet Wilson (338 7203). or Liz Baxendine (355 5137).

A huge thank you to all of Knox for your prayers and support for Matt, me and our family following his Cardiac Arrest and his ongoing healing. Your thoughts and prayers have been greatly appreciated. With love, Jane.

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

Lenten Spiritual Growth Programme

The meaning of Lent has been lost in trivial, almost comic ideas of "giving up chocolate and any other thing that is pleasurable. I would like to invite any who are seeking a deeper relationship with God to join me on four Sunday evenings in March for a free ranging exploration of ways to rediscover the real purpose of Lent: to break into our lives of routine and dull repetition, to rediscover the life, energy and freedom God's grace means for all.

The remaining dates are as follows:

24th March, 5pm - 7pm

31st March, 5pm - 7pm

Some of the topics we will open are: Prayer (who still does it, and what is it anyway? Meditation (is it Christian or Easter?) New enquiry into the effectiveness of prayer in healing. New science of the mind that suggests that prayer is a basic human instinct. Why fast? What benefit? What is spiritual growth? Aids like journaling, spiritual friendship. Praying for peace - does it do any good?



We invite you to join us at the Peace Bell in the botanic gardens Sunday 24 March at 2pm for a time of prayer for healing for the city and in support of the Muslim community who are suffering so deeply.

You are welcome to bring some unwrapped flowers to place in the Avon River at the conclusion of the service.

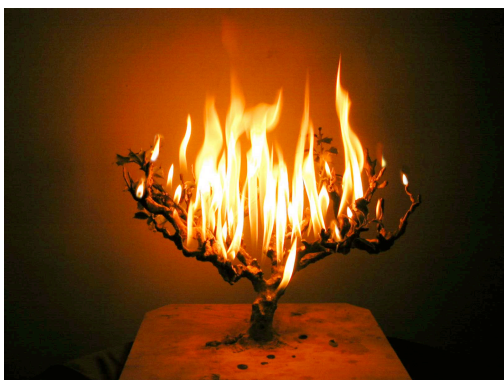
Canterbury Interfaith Society

Lent 2019

“Wilderness Stories”

Within the great narrative arc of the Bible, it’s interesting to see how many new beginnings or significant faith moments are set in the context of wilderness. A number of these wilderness moments appear in the Bible lessons for this Lent, so we’re calling Lent 2019 “Wilderness Stories”.

All services are at 10:00am, with the exception of Tenebrae, which is at 7:30pm.



Sunday 31 March - Lent 4

In his “nowhere place”, Moses sees a burning bush and is called into what will become a life-long (but life-giving) struggle with people and the mysterious, insistent “I am”.



Sunday 7 April - Lent 5

On the verge of entering their own place, the people of Israel say goodbye to manna - the fading food by which God has fed them over the wilderness years. As wilderness provision passes away, there is a new light on the horizon.



Sunday 14 April - Palm Sunday

At a combined service with Durham Street Methodist Church, we follow Jesus as his triumphal entry into Jerusalem triggers his costly Passion.



Thursday 18 April - Tenebrae

"Shelter". On the night on which he is betrayed, the Lord of the Wilderness assures his "close ones" of shelter in a love that will never die. We break bread together, then gradually darken the church as the Shadow Passages are read.



Friday 19 April - Good Friday

"Death in the Wilderness" - a solemn service in which we revisit some of our Lenten wilderness reflections, and mourn a death in the ultimate wilderness of betrayal and misunderstanding.



Sunday 21 April - Easter Day

"A Flood of Life" - the darkness is flooded with light; the tomb is flooded with life; the wilderness bursts into colour, wonder and worship. We break bread with the risen Christ.



Have you considered being a Foster Parent

"Supporting Families Caring for Children"

Do you have a passion to make a difference in the lives of children/tamariki and young people/rangatahi in Canterbury?

We are hosting an Information Evening to share our needs for Foster Parents; short term relief, 12-18 month care to permanent placements. Our most urgent need is for a child aged 10-16 and supporting a young person to learn independence skills. Full training and 24/7 support provided.

OHF is committed to mobilising the mainstream Christian community to serve children/tamariki and family/whānau in Aotearoa NZ.

To register, please contact:

Debra Victor at our Canterbury Service Centre
e: Debra.Victor@ohf.org.nz or p: 03 366 5977

www.ohf.org.nz

A Christian Community Response





The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Exodus 3: 1-6
- Exodus 3: 7-15

Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave, Christchurch 8013
Secretary: Jane Ellis,
ph. (03) 379 2456,
office@knoxchurch.co.nz
Office hours: Mon-Fri 9.00am-noon

Visit our website

www.knoxchurch.co.nz



website

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack
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

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland
ph. 0273560215



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