



# KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 21 April 2019

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A flood of life

**EASTER DAY**  
A COMMUNION SERVICE

## 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. 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 last time we gathered in this place, it was to remember the death of Jesus. On Friday, we left the church in silence. Before we hear the good news of Easter, we continue to keep a silence in the church.*

*At 10:00am*

### **The Easter Narrative**

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

*Matthew 28:1-10*

## The Easter Greeting:

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

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

The Lord is risen.

**HE IS RISEN INDEED!**

We stand for

### Hymn:

Easter Hymn

Melody from Lyra Davidica, 1708



1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!  
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!  
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done;  
fought the fight, the battle won;  
Death in vain forbids Christ rise,  
God has opened paradise.

*We remain standing for*

### The Prayer of Adoration

. . . So honour and glory,  
worship and wonder  
are yours, Christ-raising God,  
in whose celebration  
we joyfully sing:

*We sing*

### The Doxology:

3. Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia,  
following our exalted Head; Alleluia!  
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise: Alleluia;  
ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

## **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.*

*We sit for*  
**The Notices**

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

*Although there is no Sunday School today, young ones are welcome to enjoy toys and activity sheets in the play area at the rear of the church.*

**Scripture Lesson:** Acts 10: 34-43  
In this is the Word of God.  
**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**Anthem:** God reigns  
Lucien Diess (1921-2007)

## **The Easter Sermon**

*Most years, the Easter sermon is a response to the Good Friday reflection.*

*On Good Friday this year, that reflection revisited the theme we set for the whole of Lent: “wilderness stories”. We looked at some of the many wilderness experiences that had been formative moments for the people of Israel, and we looked at the death of Jesus as an intense wilderness experience not only for Jesus, but also for the people who followed him.*

*In today’s Easter sermon, we consider how resurrection is a formative experience for the Christian community. Just as Christ is a risen Lord, so we are a risen people. Into the wilderness comes a great flood of life.*

*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.*

## **Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*To the minister's words, "Through your resurrection",  
you are invited to respond "THE WILDERNESS FILLS WITH LIFE".*

**. . . 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.**

*Without announcement, we sing the*

**Communion Hymn:**

Laast Uns Erfreuen

from Geistliche Kirchengesäng 1623



1. Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky;  
heaven thunders forth its victory;  
*alleluia!*  
the glad earth shouts her triumph high  
and groaning hell makes wild reply:  
*alleluia!*
2. That Eastertide with joy was bright,  
the sun shone out with fairer light,  
when to their longing eyes restored  
the apostles saw their risen Lord.
3. He bade them see his hands, his side,  
where yet the glorious wounds abide:  
the tokens true which made it plain  
their Lord indeed was risen again.
4. Jesus, the king of gentleness,  
come now yourself our hearts possess,  
that we may give you all our days  
the tribute of our grateful praise.

*Latin, 7<sup>th</sup> Century*

*Trans. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)*

*We sit for*

**The telling of God's goodness, and the hallowing of human things**

**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

### The Distribution

*during which the Cantor sings  
"You broke the reign of death",  
Lucien Diess (1921-2007)*

*For the distribution, please come forward to the table, receive some bread,  
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.*

### Closing Prayer

*We stand for*  
**The Easter Litany:**

For early morning,  
**GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

For the giving of strength and song,  
**GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

For empty tombs,  
**GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

For glory and light,  
**GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

**FOR NEW BEGINNINGS,  
FOR CHRIST ALIVE,  
FOR EASTER LIFE  
AND LIVING FAITH,  
GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

Hear the praises of your Easter people  
this Easter morning,  
and every morning,  
**THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD,  
AMEN.**

*Without announcement, we sing*

**Hymn:**

Heartbeat

Shirley Murray (b. 1931)



1. Christ is alive, and the universe must celebrate,  
and the stars and the suns shout on this Easter Day!  
Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate  
in a great Alleluia, a great Alleluia  
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
2. Here is our hope: in the mystery of suffering  
is the heartbeat of Love, Love that will not let go,  
Here is our hope, that in God we are not separate,  
and we sing alleluia, we sing alleluia  
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
3. Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity  
to the music of God, God who has set us free!  
You are the pulse of the new creation's energy;  
with a great Alleluia, a great Alleluia,  
we praise the power that made the stone roll away.

*Shirley Murray (b. 1931)*

**Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Fantasia in G Major  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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

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## Message from the Moderator

 Presbyterian Church  
of Aotearoa New Zealand

The highlight of our Christian world is Jesus rising from the tomb. This act of God changes everything. Dejection, betrayal, denial, desertion: the disciples were lost and shattered. The one they adored and followed was crucified and publicly ridiculed. But, Jesus rose from the tomb. Everything changes.

Easter is our celebration of Jesus' resurrection. It is understood as the defeat of the two worst fears of humanity: death and sin. Jesus defeated death once and for all. Death where is your sting? Where is your victory? Death will not bring fear and dread to our lives anymore. In Jesus, and through Jesus, we have life in full - in this world and in the world to come.

Sin, which has bound and suppressed humanity since the beginning of creation, you too have lost your grip. You will not terrorise and dominate anymore. God has defeated sin through Jesus, our Lord and Saviour. Jesus is the lamb of God, sacrificed on the cross for the sin of humanity. Jesus redeemed and brought us into a new relationship with God. Sin, we know you are there, still trying to hurt and influence lives, but you are powerless, for our Lord Jesus reigns supreme forever.

Jesus Christ is risen. Alleluia. Praise God. Christians, get up and share this glorious news with all who will listen. This is the good news of salvation. It cannot be silenced.

In life and in relationships, we must be Christ-like. Jesus was rejected and deserted before the cross. When he met his disciples after death, Jesus was loving, compassionate and kind. Jesus said over and over again: "Peace be with you, receive the Holy Spirit", and he embraced them.

This Easter, be at peace with all people: be reconciling and be forgiving. Be a new person for your sake. May the Holy Spirit be your constant companion in all your relationships with people, and especially with God.

Happy Easter. Christ is risen. Alleluia. Praise the Lord!

*Fakaofa Kaio - Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand*



Many thanks to all of you who came along and participated in our most recent event at the peace bell last month. It was lovely to gather so many different faith groups together to pray together and stand in solidarity with our Muslim brothers and sisters.

After that event many of us expressed the desire to have further opportunities to get to know each other on a more informal / social basis. We have decided to host an informal interfaith picnic at which the primary agenda will be to simply enjoy each others company and get to know each other a little better.

The picnic will be held at the Botanic Gardens on Saturday the 4th of May from 11:30am to 2pm. We will meet at the peace bell at 11:30 and then sit somewhere nearby.

Please bring some warm clothes, a rug or some chairs to sit on and some food for yourself and a willingness to chat to someone new.

We are organising a back up venue in case the weather is not suitable on the day - details of a backup venue will be emailed out closer to the time if the forecast is not looking promising. However fingers crossed it is a nice sunny Christchurch autumn day. Kids are very welcome, we will have some soccer balls and some frisbees to play with also.

Matthew Gardner (on behalf of the Canterbury Interfaith Society)

# Sing for the World

**John Bell**



Knox Church Centre, Bealey Ave, Christchurch

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019, 7-9pm

Bring your voice, your heart and your desire to sing songs for the world, led by John Bell

## **Koha**

JOHN BELL is a Resource Worker with the Iona Community, Scotland. He is a hymn writer, author and occasional broadcaster, but retains a primary passion for congregational song. John is based in Glasgow and works with his colleagues in the areas of music, worship and spirituality.

The Iona Community is a dispersed ecumenical Christian community of women and men around the world who seek to live out the Gospel in a way that is radical, inclusive and relevant to life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The hospitality and educative work at the Abbey, Isle of Iona, Scotland, runs under their auspices.



### The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 150
- Acts 5: 27-32

## Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave, Christchurch 8013  
Secretary: Jane Ellis,  
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Visit our website  
[www.knoxchurch.co.nz](http://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