



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 25 August 2019

MR. ~~X~~ PEDANTIC

By Roger Hargreaves



**FOR THE SAKE OF GOD,
LET IT GO!
EMBRACE THE IMPORTANT.**

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.

Please don't leave any items unattended around the church;
they may cause alarm.

The Call to Worship:

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.

**JESUS, BORN INTO A JEWISH WORLD OF HEBREW COMMITMENT;
JESUS, ANOINTED TO BREAK THE LAWS OF HIS TIME AND FAITH;
JESUS, CALLING US TO THINK HARD ABOUT WHAT IS IMPORTANT.**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Gwalchmai

Joseph Michael Jones (1827-1870)



1. King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and, that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.

2. Wherefore with my utmost art
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me;
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.

3. Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee:
ev'n eternity's too short
to extol thee.

George Herbert (1593-1633)

Prayer of Approach

Seven whole days
call us, God of wonder and love,
to extol you -

**NO INCOMPLETE WORSHIP,
NO PARTIAL PRAISE.**

Seven days, not one in seven, call us
to do your mercy,

TO LOVE YOUR JUSTICE,

to walk humbly,

TO SERVE YOU WELL.

May all our days be spent
hallowing your name,

SERVING YOUR PURPOSES,

rejoicing in your goodness,

BEING DELIGHTED TO BE YOUR CHILDREN.

This is our worship,

IN JESUS, THE LORD.

Silence

From the story of Jesus,
we will see him today
struggling with his tradition.
He has watched it growing cold,
AND HARD,

and weird,
AND MEAN.

He has watched it constraining and killing,
OFFERING NO MERCY.

He will receive criticism for acting with mercy.

This may move us to think about how we have failed to be people of mercy.
If it doesn't,
PRICK OUR CONSCIENCE.

If it does,
WORK YOUR GOSPEL WITHIN US.

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:

When presented, dear Jesus,
with a woman who had suffered for years,
you knew exactly what to do.
**YOUR LOVE FOR GOD,
AND FOR YOUR SISTER,
MOVED YOU TO IMMEDIATE MERCY.**

The people saw it,
AND THEY REJOICED.

Grant that we,
who read your story,
may let it ruffle our feathers,
**THEN MOVE US TO SHED ALL THAT HOLD US BACK,
MAKING US FREE FOR YOUR PURPOSES OF MERCY.**

We pray this in your name,
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: Isaiah 58: 9b-14

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

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 13: 10-17

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Hymn:

Heaven shall not wait

John Bell (b. 1949)



1. Heaven shall not wait
for the poor to lose their patience,
the scorned to smile, the despised to find a friend:
Jesus is Lord;
he has championed the unwanted;
in him justice confronts its timely end.
2. Heaven shall not wait
for the rich to share their fortunes,
the proud to fall, the élite to tend the least:
Jesus is Lord;
he has shown the master's privilege -
to kneel and wash servants' feet before they feast.
3. Heaven shall not wait
for the dawn of great ideas,
thoughts of compassion divorced from cries of pain:
Jesus is Lord;
he has married word and action;
his cross and company make his purpose plain.
4. Heaven shall not wait
for triumphant Hallelujahs,

when earth has passed and we reach another shore:
Jesus is Lord
in our present imperfection;
his power and love are for now; and then for evermore.

*John Bell (b. 1949)
and Graham Maule (b. 1958)*

Sermon:

Mercy made me do it. I'm ~~sorry~~ - not sorry!

*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: Improvisation
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Graeme Downie

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

May God bless what here is offered.

**MAY LOVE AND HEALING
SWEEP FORTH A WAY
FOR IT TO BE USED WELL.**

My people stand tall,
AND LIBERTY COME.

This is our prayer,
in Jesus the merciful,
AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:

Woodlands

Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)



1. Stand tall in Christ, all people of our God,
no other idol will suffice this hour.
In Jesus Christ all captives are set free,
all hurts are healed and hope is born anew.
2. Stand tall in Love, all people who would dare
be reconcilers where divisions lie;
in love will pain and loneliness be eased
and rainbows hung in all our hearts again.
3. Stand tall in Peace, all people who love life,
whose lives are candles in earth's darkest place,
who plead for justice and support the weak
that all might live in hope and harmony.
4. Stand tall in Faith, all people who would share
as trusting partners in God's enterprise,
whose lives would speak in deeds, not just in words,
of grace, forgiveness and a generous heart.

Margaret Kouvelis

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Improvisation

Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

Congregational Meeting:

Immediately after the postlude ends, a meeting will be convened to attend to the matter of electing new members to the Knox Church Council.

Tea and coffee then are served in the church

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NOTICES

This Week: **25 August – 31 August 2019**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
 11.15am Knox Book Group – **see below**
Wednesday 4.00pm Bible Study

Next Week: **1 September – 7 September 2019**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 4.00pm Bible Study

Knox Book Group – Sunday 25 August at 11.15am in the Committee Room. Two books with a similar concept. “One Hundred Names” by Cecilia Ahern and “The Five People you Meet in Heaven” by Mitch Albom.

A Call to Prayer: An Evening of Sacred Sound. Join us on Thursday 29 August at 7:30pm for a beautiful evening of sacred sound. We will have a range of performers from different faith backgrounds presenting some form of sacred sound from their traditions. This may include song or instrumental music, chant as well as dance. We will have a diverse range of faith groups presenting something sacred from their traditions including Hindu, Christian, Muslim, Baha'i as well as from Spiritual movements. **Venue:** Hohepa Hall. 23 Barrington Street (park on Barrington street and walk up the Hohepa driveway. The hall is the large building on the right in the car park, entrance is via the left of the building. Follow the signs). **Time:** 730-9pm <https://www.facebook.com/events/2275469795834295/>

Knox Film Group – Sunday 8th September 4pm, lounge. Ladies in Lavender. A young Polish sailor is washed ashore on the coast of Cornwall in the last days before WW2. Two elderly sisters help him to recover. What will happen next.....? Starring Maggie Smith and Judi Dench.

Spring Flower Sunday - 8 September. To celebrate Spring, we will deliver small bunches of flowers to our shut-in and other senior members after the service. It would be great if you could bring spring flowers to be distributed - the flowers can be already bunched or will be bunched after the service. Also

needed will be people to deliver the flowers. This is an opportunity to connect with other church people, especially those who are now unable to come to services.

Morning Tea - Sunday 15 September. At the conclusion of the Service inducting three new Elders and a Council member to Knox Council, a “fancy” morning tea will be held in the Church. If you are able to provide a plate, please let Jennifer McKinnon know by Sunday 8 September, 3380333, or jennifer.mckinnon@xtra.co.nz

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

Election of new people to the Knox Church Council

Within the Presbyterian form of government, congregations elect to leadership people they believe have appropriate gifts and wisdom for the times and place. Having assessed the times into which Knox has come, the mission challenges associated with these times, and the committed ethos of our church, the Council of Knox Church has identified four people it believes can serve us well in leadership:

- Helen Cannan - Elder
- Rochelle Howley - Elder
- Janneke Nuysink - Elder
- Naomi Suresh - Council member

With warmth, gratitude and encouragement, Council commends Helen, Rochelle, Janneke and Naomi to the congregation for appointment to the Council. Each has indicated a willingness to serve and indicated the capacity in which they feel called to serve. Should any Knox person have any objection to any of these nominations, please lodge them with the minister prior to the **congregational election meeting which will be held after morning worship today, 25 August 2019.**

Brief biographies of the nominees have been published for the last two weeks. Extra printed copies are available from the door team:

*Janet Wilson,
Knox Church Council Clerk*

Hinewai Reserve

On Sunday 4 August, Hugh Wilson spoke at a Knox Café about his work at Hinewai Reserve on Banks Peninsula. It was a good evening, and a koha was gathered for Hinewai. Below is his response.

Dear Matthew and flock, that was very pleasant meeting everybody at Knox the other day. I had no idea the koha was going to be gathered together and directed to Hinewai. Many thanks indeed. If all goes well, that magnificent contribution will go directly to a land purchase we are currently negotiating, which, if successful, will take Hinewai to the sea. Keep your fingers crossed - maybe a few toes as well. If it happens, it will be news in the newsletter. I have put the Knox Café Club on the mailing list, but let me know if this is not what you want. I also enclose our last newsletter, and a receipt, which I am not sure is useful, but the main thing is to say a hearty thankyou..

Open Church

During the mission discernment process we've been following over the last few years, one of the first "peace projects" floating to the top was the opening of the church, as a quiet space for the city, on lunchtimes during the week. We hope to be able to launch a day or so of "open church" in mid-September, but this depends on people being available to volunteer to watch the church. A volunteer form has been inserted in this week's order of service, and if you feel led to participate in this project, please fill it out and put it in the offering bag.

This year's second peace project

The mission discernment group, an open group to which all people were invited, determined that the second project we would trial this year was a good Knox attendance at the annual Inter-faith prayer gathering at the Peace Bell in the Botanic Gardens. We decided that rather than make a big noise and have a high profile, this year we would just go and take a look. The more people taking a look, the better. Unfortunately, the Peace Bell event is on **Sunday 13 October**, when we have our AGM and have an open day as part of Heritage Week. Please focus your energies on the events that day where you feel you can make the best contribution. However many people willing to go to the Peace Bell event will share lunch beforehand, and walk together to the event. A week or so later, we'll reflect on the value of the experience.



The Bible reading for next week will be:

- Luke 14: 1, 7-14

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

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



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