



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 22 December 2019



NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS

Tea and coffee are served in the church following the service

A loop system for hearing aids operates at Knox

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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.

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

We take care to use inclusive language in our services. References to God in traditional prayers and hymns may sometimes be gender-specific. As we pray and sing together, you're invited to adapt the words we've chosen. When we pray the "Lord's prayer", feel free to pray in your first language.

Pre-service Music: Magnificat
George Dyson (1883-1964)

The Welcome:

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

The Notices

The Advent Wreath: The Candle of Joy
Jackie Brown, Session Clerk of St George's, Iona

Today we light the candle of Joy. Joy is what the long-travelling wise men felt when they arrived at Bethlehem and knew that this **was** the place. Joy was knowing that they had come upon something beautiful.

**JOY WAS MAKING THEIR OFFERING TO GOD
WHOM THEY HAD YET FULLY TO UNDERSTAND.**

We light this candle as people who are called to joy.

**WE GIVE THANKS FOR THE GIFT OF JESUS,
AND WE LOOK TO HIS COMING AMONG US.**

The candle is lit

Prayer

In joy that bubbles up in song, in joy that storms the hardened heart, in joy that overcomes the shepherds' fear, in joy that comes at the birth of a child, we see your hand, our God. As Advent closes, and Christmas comes upon us, may we be made a people of joy.

WE WAIT FOR YOUR LOVING KINDNESS, O GOD.

SO COME, LORD JESUS.

AMEN.

Although Sunday School does not begin again until next year, young ones are welcome to enjoy books and toys and in the play area.

The Opening Hymn:

Irby

H. J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)



Verse 1 is sung by a soloist.

Verse 2 is sung by choir only.

The congregation stands and 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.

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.

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.
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)

The Bidding 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.

First Lesson: Genesis 3: 3-15

Carol: "For Behold Darkness Shall Cover the Earth"
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Second Lesson: Genesis 22: 15-18

Carol: "Hark! A Herald Voice is Calling" tune: LEINAD
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

Third Lesson: Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

Carol: "The People That Walked in Darkness..."
George Freideric Handel (1685-1759)

Carol: "Unto Us is Born a Son"
Piae Cantiones, 1582,
Arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

Fourth Lesson: Isaiah 11: 1-9

Carol: Sans Day Carol
John Rutter (b. 1945)

Hymn: Silent Night
Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863)



1. Silent night, holy night:
all is calm, all is bright
round the virgin mother and child,
holy infant so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.
2. Silent night, holy night:
shepherds quake at the sight;
glories stream from heaven afar,
heavenly hosts sing, 'Alleluia;
Christ the Saviour is born,
Christ the Saviour is born.'
3. Silent night, holy night:
wondrous star, lend your light;
with the angels let us sing
Alleluia to our King;
Christ our Saviour is born,
Christ our Saviour is born.

*Joseph Mohr (1792-1848),
tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885) alt.*

Fifth Lesson: Luke 1: 26-38

Carol:

“For behold, a virgin shall conceive...”
George Freideric Handel (1685-1759)

Carol:

“The Angel Gabriel”
Basque Traditional Carol

Sixth Lesson:

Matthew 1: 18-23

Offertory Hymn:

The First Noel

English traditional melody



1. The first Nowell the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
*Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
born is the King of Israel!*
2. They lookèd up and saw a star,
shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell . . .

3. Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
that hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
and with his blood salvation bought:
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell . . .

English traditional carol, arranged by David Willcocks

We remain standing for
The Dedication of the Offering

We make this offering in love, hope and praise.

**MAY GOD DIRECT ITS USE,
MOVE US TO LIVE LIVES OF SERVICE,
AND BLESS ALL PEOPLE THIS CHRISTMAS SEASON.
AMEN.**

Seventh Lesson: Luke 2: 8-16

Carol:

1. "There were shepherds abiding in the field..."
2. "And lo, the angel came upon them..."
3. "And the angel said unto them..."
4. "And suddenly there was with the angel..."
5. "Glory to God"

George Freideric Handel (1685-1759)

Eighth Lesson: Matthew 2: 1-11

Carol: Nativity Carol
John Rutter (b. 1945)

Carol: Star Carol
John Rutter (b. 1945)

Ninth Lesson: John 1: 1-14

Hymn:

Adeste Fideles

John Francis Wade (c.1711-1786)



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 . . .
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 . . .
Christ the Lord!

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 . . .

John Francis Wade (c.1711-1786)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude:

Gloria in Excelsis Deo
Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

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