



# KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 16 February 2020



# CHOOSE LIFE

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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.

### The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, AROUND WHOM THE SOUL-HUNGRY PEOPLE GATHER;**

**JESUS, BREATHING NEW MEANING INTO OLDER WORDS;**

**JESUS, TO WHOM WE OFFER OUR HEARTS AND MINDS AS A HOME.**

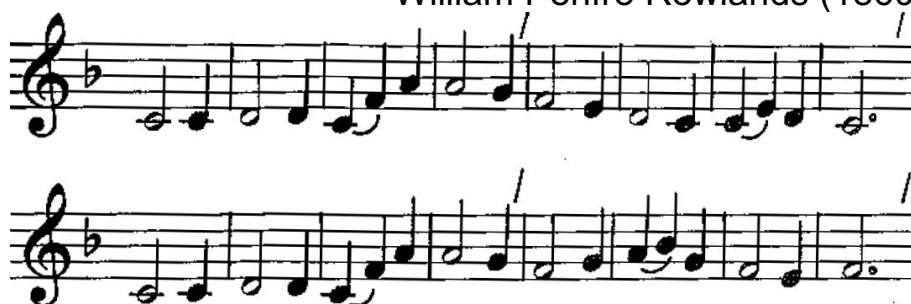
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

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

### Hymn:

Blaenwern

William Penfro Rowlands (1860-1937)





1. Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,  
hidden now in mystery,  
nature bursts with joyful promise,  
ripe with what is yet to be.  
In a wealth of rich invention,  
still the work of art unfolds:  
barely have we seen, and faintly,  
what God's great salvation holds.
2. Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,  
making Jesus seen and heard.  
Every age of God's creation  
grasps new meaning from the Word.  
Show us, Holy Spirit, show us  
your new work begun today:  
eyes and ears and hearts are open,  
teach us what to do and say.
3. Great and deep the Spirit's purpose:  
all God's children brought to birth,  
freed from hunger, fear and evil  
every corner of the earth,  
and a million million voices  
speak with joy the Saviour's name;  
every face reflects his image,  
never any two the same.
4. Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,  
nothing shall be left to chance.  
All that live will be united  
in the everlasting dance.  
All fulfilled and all perfected,  
each uniquely loved and known,  
Christ in glory unimagined  
once for all receives his own.

*Marnie Barrell (b. 1952)*

## **Prayer of Approach**

Great and deep the purposes of God.  
A Word is spoken,  
and chaos retreats.  
Form, order, life.

**WE CHOOSE LIFE.**

Great and deep the purposes of God.  
The law is given,  
and a way of living finds space.  
Love God.  
Love neighbour.  
Choose life.

**WE CHOOSE LIFE.**

Great and deep the purposes of God.  
Jesus addresses the crowds,  
challenges the heart of the people.  
Calling them from bland observance  
to the embodying of eternal life.

**WE CHOOSE LIFE.**

Great and deep the purposes of God.  
Crucified, dead, and risen.

**WE CHOOSE LIFE.**

Great and deep the purposes of God.  
Spirit comes,  
re-creating,  
emboldening,  
giving new speech and meaning.  
God is new life.

**WE CHOOSE LIFE.**

Delighting that we are called to worship,  
**WE CHOOSE LIFE.**

*Silence*

In a moment of honesty,  
we admit before one another  
and our God,  
that "life" is not always the choice.

Sometimes we curse, rather than bless.  
Sometimes we double-down, and justify our wrong.  
Sometimes we deny the truth,  
and stand for death.

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:**

God of love, harmony and peace,  
in ancient times  
you called your people  
to manifest a life that reflected your nature.  
You shaped for them a way of grace,  
and called them to choose life.

**GIVE US GRACE,  
THAT WE MIGHT RISE ABOVE PERFUNCTORY OBEDIENCE,  
TO LIVE HONESTLY, OPENLY,  
AND WITH MUCH LOVE AND CARE  
FOR YOU AND OUR NEIGHBOURS.**

We pray this in Jesus' name,  
using the words he gave us:

**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.**

*While the next Sunday School day is not until 15 March, today young ones are welcome to enjoy toys and activity sheets in the activity area, at the rear of the church.*

#### **The First Lesson:**

Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

In this is the Word of God

**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

#### **Knox Singers:**

Teach me, O Lord

Thomas Attwood (1765-1838)

#### **The Gospel Lesson:**

Matthew 5: 21-37

This is the gospel of Christ.

**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

**Hymn:**

Melcombe

S. Webbe the elder (1740-1816)



1. Creator of the earth and skies,  
to whom all truth and power belong,  
grant us your truth to make us wise;  
grant us your power to make us strong.
2. We have not known you: to the skies  
our monuments of folly soar,  
and all our self-wrought miseries  
have made us trust ourselves the more.
3. We have not loved you: far and wide  
the wreckage of our hatred spreads,  
and evils wrought by human pride  
recoil on unrepentant heads.
4. We long to end this worldwide strife:  
how shall we follow in your way?  
Speak to mankind your words of life,  
until our darkness turns to day.

*D.W. Hughes (1911-1967)*

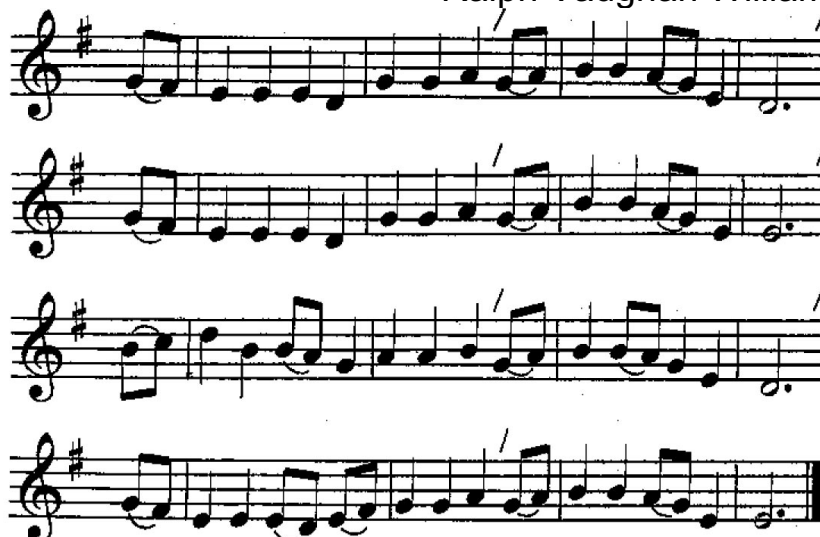
**Sermon:**

Deeper matters and bigger pictures

*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.*

**Hymn:**  
Kingsfold

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Come unto me and rest,  
lay down, O weary one, lay down  
your head upon my breast,"  
I came to Jesus as I was,  
weary and worn and sad;  
I found in him a resting-place,  
and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"Behold, I freely give  
the living water; thirsty one,  
stoop down and drink and live."  
I came to Jesus, and I drank  
of that life-giving stream;  
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,  
and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,  
"I am this dark world's Light;  
look unto me, your morn shall rise,  
and all your day be bright."  
I looked to Jesus, and I found  
in him my Star, my Sun;  
and in that Light of life I'll walk  
till travelling days are done.

*Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)*

**Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Andrew Johnston*

**The Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

With the simpler matters of food and money,  
we seek to offer our hearts and minds -

**THAT THEY MAY BE A HOME TO GOD'S SPIRIT,**



**PRODUCING SINCERITY AND SERVICE,  
COMPASSION AND FAITH.**

May God bless all that is offered,  
**IN JESUS' NAME,  
AMEN.**

**Notices**

**Hymn:**

Spiritus Vitae

Mary Jane Hammond (1878-1964)



1. O breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your church with life and power;  
O breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your church to meet this hour.
2. O wind of God, come bend us, break us,  
till humbly we confess our need;  
then in your tenderness remake us,  
revive, restore: for this we plead.
3. O breath of love, come breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive your church in every part.
4. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating  
while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,  
equip your church to spread the light.

*Elizabeth Ann Porter Head (1850-1936)*

**Benediction and Sung Amen**

**The Postlude**

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



## NOTICES

**This Week: 16 February – 22 February 2020**

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 23 February – 29 February 2020**

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Public Meeting – Sunday 16 February** – Brother Peter Bray, Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University. Peter will be speaking about his experiences at Bethlehem University and show a video of Palestinian students talking about aspects of their lives under Israeli military occupation. Venue: WEA, 59 Gloucester Street at 7pm.

**Sunday 23 February** – Canterbury Interfaith Society have extended an invitation from the Aldersgate Centre for a “Behind the Scenes Tour” 1- 4pm, a week before the Opening Celebration weekend. Drop in anytime between 1-4pm for a chance to look over this amazing facility at 309 Durham Street North. Gold coin donation.

**Saturday 29 February – Visit Brian and Helen Coker's Garden at West Melton.** This will be an opportunity to see the development since our last visit when the garden was very new. Afternoon Tea will be provided and there will be a charge of \$10 per person which will be donated to the Charity Hospital. It is intended that we car pool, leaving Knox car park at 2pm. All are welcome. Forms to fill in are at each door. Numbers by Sunday 23 February.

**Saturday 29 February – Sunday 1 March – Opening Celebration Weekend of the Aldersgate Centre (Durham Street Methodist).** There are several functions which you may attend.

- Opening Celebration – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm
- Celebration Dinner – Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm
- Sunday Celebration – Sunday 1 March at 10am
- Festival of Music – Sunday 1 March at 2.30pm

Further details can be found on our noticeboards. To register, please contact [opening@aldersgate.org.nz](mailto:opening@aldersgate.org.nz)

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** – Friday 6 March, 10am at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, 373 Manchester Street. A service prepared by World Day of Prayer Committee, Zimbabwe.

**KNOX LIFE** - The next issue of Knox Life is planned for March. Contributions are invited to be submitted by Monday 2 March. Please send them to Jane in the Knox office. All contributions welcome.

**LENTEN PROGRAMME, 2020** - Five Sunday evenings in March this year, to explore a Christ-centred spirituality that is friendly to our endangered planet. The sessions, conducted by Len Pierce, will be based on the Canticle of St Francis of Assisi, and will be held in the activity corner in the church, 5:00pm - 7:00pm, March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29. It is understood that folk may be unable to attend all of the sessions. People are welcome to come as suits

**Knox church values the support of all who are involved in our community's life. Knox Church is a charity. All charitable donations are eligible for a tax rebate of 33%. Bank account 03 1705 0029641 00. Put your name in the reference field and email your contact details to the office or donations secretary. For further information or options contact: [office@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz) Ph 3792456 or Janet Wilson, Donations Secretary [janmwil507@gmail.com](mailto:janmwil507@gmail.com) Ph 338 7203.**

## **Rev David Brown,**



REVEREND DAVID BROWN

a Presbyterian minister from Noe Valley parish, San Francisco, is taking some study leave in Aotearoa New Zealand in mid-February, to look at some of the things being done in progressive congregations here, including here at Knox. He hopes to be able to hear something of our story and of the values that have driven our mission discernment. He's also happy to run a couple of evening (5:30pm - 7:00pm) workshops for us. On Thursday 20th, he'll speak about dismantling structural racism, and on Thursday 27th, he'll describe how the Presbyterian Church USA came to an inclusive stance on same sex marriage and rainbow leadership. He'll be preaching on Sunday 23rd. The Noe Valley parish website can be found here: <http://www.noevalleyministry.org/>

David would love not just to speak to us, but also to hear from us. After morning tea on Sunday 23 February, we'll gather in the children's area to talk with him - to tell him our recovery story, and maybe to give him a glimpse into our mission discernment process.



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

- Leviticus 19:18, and Deuteronomy 19: 16-21
- Matthew 5: 38-48

## Knox Directory

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Secretary: Jane Ellis,  
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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,  
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Director of Music: Daniel Cooper,  
organist@knoxchurch.co.nz

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland  
ph. 0273560215

Visit our website  
[www.knoxchurch.co.nz](http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz)



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