



# KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 5 April 2020

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**THEY WAVE THEIR DYING BRANCHES  
WHILE, SOMEWHERE, A VINE IS GROWING**  
- a service for Palm Sunday -

## 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.

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.

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A home-made video of this service is available online. Please visit:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wznN6bICdEo&feature=youtu.be>

### Greeting and Explanation

#### The Gathering:

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

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

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

**PEACE IN HEAVEN**

**AND GLORY IN THE HIGHEST!**

#### The Blessing of the Palms:

Rev. Jenny Wilkens  
St Barnabas Anglican Parish, Fendalton

#### The Triumphal Entry:

Matthew 21: 1-11  
Rev. Fr Christopher Friel  
Catholic Parish of the Holy Family, Timaru

The gospel of the Lord.  
**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

**Processional Hymn:**

St Theodulph

Later form of melody by Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)



*All glory, laud and honour  
to thee redeemer king,  
to whom the lips of children  
did sweet hosannas ring.*

Thou art the king of Israel,  
thou David's royal son,  
who in the Lord's name comest,  
the king and blessèd one.  
*All glory, laud and honour  
to thee redeemer king . . .*

The company of angels  
are praising thee on high,  
and mortals all, and all things  
created make reply.  
*All glory, laud and honour  
to thee redeemer king . . .*

To thee, before thy passion,  
they sang their hymns of praise;  
to thee now high exalted  
our melody we raise.

*Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821)  
tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

While we are keeping to ourselves,  
**JESUS IS KNOCKING ON THE DOOR.**

While we are staying at home,  
he rides into the middle of a busy city.  
**A DONKEY BEARS HIM  
INTO A BUSY, COMPLICATED LIFE.**

What awaits him,  
in the big, busy city,  
with trucks and buses,  
and internet connections,  
and twitter and gossip?  
**A WELCOME?  
A CRUCIFIXION?  
O GOD!**

He comes to the city  
with a vision from God -  
of a people being one in him,  
**OF PEOPLE BEING BRANCHES  
IN THE ONE TRUE VINE.**

As we worship,  
bless us to be people of his one true vine,  
**FOR WE PRAY THIS IN HIS NAME.**

We confess, however,  
that often we are more with the city,  
than we are with the coming Christ.  
**TODAY WE WAVE OUR BRANCHES,  
BUT TOMORROW WE CALL FOR CRUCIFIXION.**

Today we say "hosanna",  
**BUT TOMORROW WE SAY "GUILTY".**

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:**

Gracious God,  
Jesus entered the city  
to find us and to call us to change the world.  
While we were set in our "city ways",  
he warned us that a God-planted vine of love and grace,  
was growing among us.

**OPEN OUR MINDS AND HEARTS,  
SO THAT WE MIGHT STEP AWAY FROM THE CITY  
INTO THE VINE THAT IS GROWING.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
using the words he has given 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.*

*Rev. Chris Chamberlain, Oxford Terrace Baptist Church, reads the*

**Gospel Lesson:** John 15: 1-7

This is the gospel of Christ.  
**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

**Hymn:**

Abbots Leigh

Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)



1. God is love, the heavens adoring;  
God is love, let earth rejoice;  
let creation sing its praises,  
high rejoicing with one voice.  
God who laid the earth's foundation,  
and who spread the heavens above,  
God who breathes through all creation.  
is pure love, eternal love.
2. God is love, and is enfolding  
all the world in one embrace,  
with unfailing grasp is holding  
every child of every race.  
And when human hearts are breaking  
under sorrow's iron rod,  
then they find that self-same aching  
deep within the heart of God.

*Timothy Rees (1874-1939), alt.*

**Sermon:** In the city, grows a vine

**Music for Reflection:** Festive Trumpet Tune  
David German (b. 1954)

**Prayers for Ourselves and Others:**

*To the minister's words "God of the vine; to the good of your world",  
you are invited to respond **"BLESS AND FEED YOUR BRANCHES"**.*

**Offering:**

O God, in another extraordinary week,  
where discipleship needs to find  
a rather more isolated expression,  
and where we are missing  
those to whom we belong,  
**YOU CALL US INTO THE VINE.**

From our bubbles,  
may we offer what we can,  
**TO YOUR HONOUR AND GLORY,  
AMEN.**

**The Lenten Litany:**

O Christ,  
in order to do God's work  
and change the world,  
you entered the big, volatile city.  
You threw yourself into the danger of the world,  
and call us now to follow you.  
Along the Lenten path  
**LEAD US LORD JESUS.**

O Christ,  
within the cut and thrust of the world,  
you present us with another vision:  
a vision of community that is a vine,  
with branches finding life,  
and being at peace.  
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.**

**Sung Blessing:** The Lord bless you and keep you  
John Rutter (b. 1945)

### **The Benediction:**

Within your bubble, live well now, in peace,  
knowing that the God of peace is with you.  
And the blessing of God . . .

### **Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Highland Cathedral  
Uli Roever (1934-1997) and Michael Korb (b. 1960)



### **The Bible readings for Good Friday are:**

- Mark 1: 40-45
- John 18 & 19

### **The readings for Easter Day are:**

- John 20: 1-18
- John 20: 19-23

## **Knox Directory**

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