



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 26 April 2020



THE ROAD BACK HOME?

A home-made video of this service will be available from noon on 25 April at:

<https://youtu.be/aWJERK5GWD4>

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.

The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, PRESENT IN THE GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD;
JESUS, WALKING WITH US INTO OUR NEW FUTURE;
JESUS, WHOSE RESURRECTION IS CHANGING THE WORLD.**

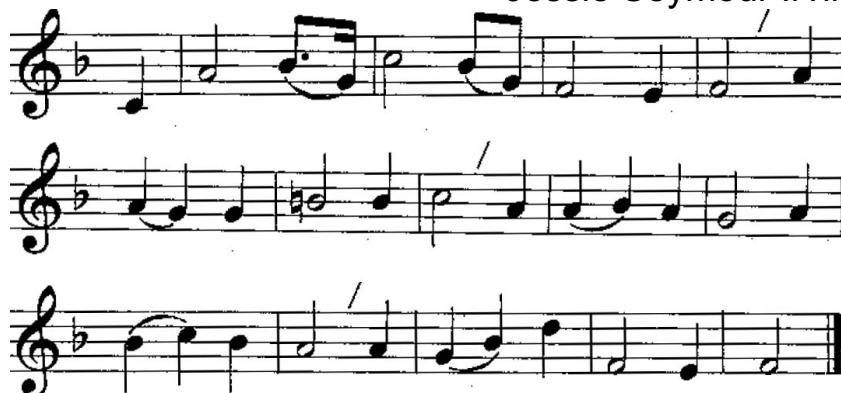
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Crimond

Jessie Seymour Irvine (1833-1893)



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. The Lord's my shepherd: I'll not want;
he makes me down to lie
in pastures green: he leadeth me
the quiet waters by. | 2. My soul he doth restore again,
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake. |
|--|--|

3. Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me;
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Scottish Psalter (1650)

Prayer of Approach

The road along which we go . . .

The psalmist sang of life as a journey,
and of how, for every part of it,
the travelling was done
in the company of goodness and mercy.

**GOODNESS AND MERCY
SHOULD SURELY FOLLOW US
ALL THE DAYS OF OUR LIFE.**

The psalmist sang of being led
through famine and fortune,
BY ONE WHO NURTURES AND FEEDS US.

And today,
we hear of two would-be nurtured people, joining that journey -
taking their leave of their time of trial,
taking the road back home,
where maybe everything will be simple again.

But no, they can't go back;
for Easter has changed their world.
**THE LORD IS RISEN;
HE IS RISEN INDEED.**

Now we join with them, O God,
in walking into the mystery of Easter.
We meet the One who assures us that fuller communion
and deeper faith
are beckoning.
**GOD, CALLS US FORTH,
ALLELUIA.**

But now, O God, our confession.
As Christ would take us further along the road,
we have an enduring inclination to return to the past.
As Christ would burn within our hearts,
**WE PREFER TO BE SENSIBLE,
WITH HEARTS THAT ARE COOL.**

So we say:

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:

Jesus of the Emmaus road,
you walked with lonely and confused humanity,
which was intent on going back to the safe and undisturbed past.
You asked your questions
and you shared your wisdom.
**ASK US YOUR SEARCHING QUESTIONS, ALSO,
UNTIL WE UNDERSTAND
THAT YOU HAVE CHANGED OUR WORLD FOREVER
AND FILLED IT WITH THE GOD WHO LIVES.**

We pray this in your name,
and use the words that you have 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.

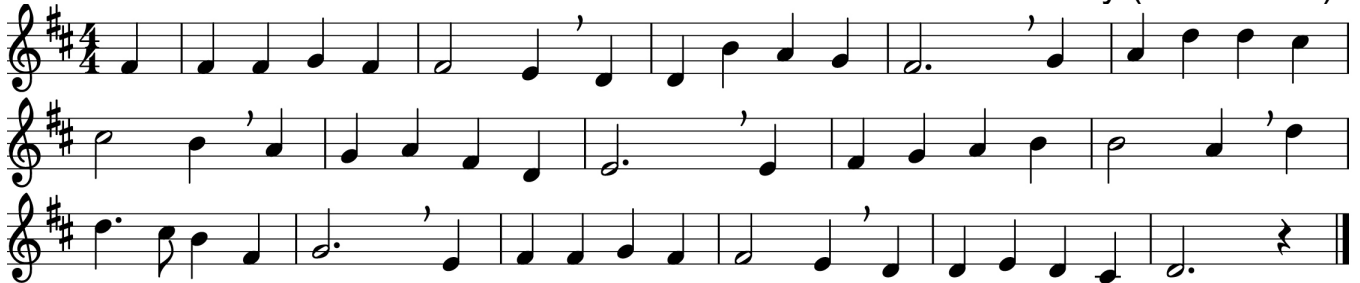
The Scripture Lesson: Luke 24: 13-35

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

Hymn:

Aurelia

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)



- | | |
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| 1. Light of the minds that know him,
may Christ be light to mine!
My sun in risen splendor,
my light of truth divine;
my guide in doubt and darkness,
my true and living way,
my clear light ever shining,
my dawn of heaven's day. | 2. Life of the souls that love him,
may Christ be ours indeed!
The living Bread from heaven
on whom our spirits feed;
who lived for love of others,
who heaven's story told,
and made of our life's journey
a true Emmaus road. |
| 3. Strength of the wills that serve him,
may Christ be strength to me,
who stilled the storm and tempest,
who calmed the tossing sea;
his Spirit's power to move me,
his will to master mine,
his cross to carry daily
and conquer in his sign. | |
| 4. May it be ours to know him
that we may truly love,
and loving, fully serve him | |

as serve the saints above;
till in that home of glory
with fadeless splendour bright,
we serve in perfect freedom
our strength, our life, our light.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)

Sermon: Back to normal?

Generally, sermons are posted on our website shortly after the service at: <http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html>

Music for Reflection: Chorale Prelude on "Gott der Vater wohn uns bei"
George Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*To the minister's words, "You begin to open their eyes and warm their hearts",
you are invited to respond **"WARM OURS TOO, O CHRIST"**.*

The Offering and Dedication

Work for those whose jobs have gone,
rest for those whose work has overwhelmed them,
safety for the high at risk,
and love for all the community.

We pray these things,
as we make our offering.

**MAY GOD BLESS WHAT WE OFFER,
USING IT TO BUILD CHRIST'S NEW AND BETTER WAY.
AMEN.**

Sung Blessing: The Gaelic Blessing
John Rutter (b. 1945)
Soloist: Matt Harris

Benediction and **Sung Amen**

An ANZAC Day Litany

A Narrative

Hymn:

Eventide

William Henry Monk (1823-1889)



1. Honour the dead, our country's fighting brave,
honour our children left in foreign graves,
where poppies blow and sorrow seeds her flowers,
honour the crosses marked forever ours.
2. Weep for the places ravaged with our blood,
weep for the young bones buried in the mud,
weep for the powers of violence and greed,
weep for the deals done in the name of need.
3. Honour the brave whose conscience was their call,
answered no bugle, went against the wall,
suffered in prisons of contempt and shame,
branded as cowards, in our country's name.
4. Weep for the waste of all that might have been,
weep for the cost that war has made obscene,
weep for the homes that ache with human pain,
weep that we ever sanction war again.
5. Honour the dream for which our nation bled,
held now in trust to justify the dead,
honour their vision on this solemn day:
peace known in freedom, peace the only way.

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

The ANZAC Ode:

They shall grow not old
as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them,

nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun
and in the morning,
we will remember them.
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

Postlude: A mighty fortress is our God
Max Reger (1873-1916)

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The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 119: 33-40
- 2 Corinthians 4: 1-6

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

Visit our website
www.knoxchurch.co.nz



website

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



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