



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 3 May 2020



TOWARDS THE BETTER WORLD

A COMMUNION SERVICE

A home-made video of this service will go "public" at noon on Saturday 2 May,
at <https://youtu.be/g9MZK3gKguc>

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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.

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.

Celebrating communion during Level Three

For a long time, now, we have celebrated communion on the first Sunday of each month at Knox. Communion has acted as a celebratory affirmation, of our being one body in Christ ("one bread, one body"). Communion, obviously, usually involves our gathering physically, which under Level Three containment requirements, we still cannot do. Nevertheless, because we may need a way of expressing the God-gifted unity from which nothing in all creation can separate us, I've decided to continue including communion in our liturgy for the first Sunday of the month while we are physically separated.

While it may be enough for you to see the bread broken at my house, it may be important for you to also have bread at your house. I leave it over to you to do what feels right for you at this time. The One whom we worship will, I believe, understand what we are trying to do.

Matthew.

The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, GOD'S TRUTH AND BEAUTY MEETING US IN A HUMAN FACE;
JESUS, MEETING US EYE TO EYE, AND HEART TO HEART;
JESUS, WHOSE RESURRECTION CALLS US INTO A NEW HOPE.**

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

Hymn:

Was Lebet

from Choral-Buch of Johann Heinrich Reinhardt (1754)



1. Worship our God in the beauty of holiness,
bring thy devotion, God's glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bringing, adoring, we praise the great name.
2. Fear not to enter the courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings to lay on the shrine.
3. These, though we bring them in trembling and fearfulness,
God will accept for the name that is dear,
mornings of joy give for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling and hope for our fear.
4. Worship our God in the beauty of holiness,
bring thy devotion, God's glory proclaim;
gold of obedience and incense of lowliness
bringing, adoring, we praise the great name.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875), alt.

Prayer of Approach

To the One of beauty and holiness, who gives us a vision,
and who calls us into making a brave new world,
let us offer our prayer; let us pray.

Pause

From early days, O God,
there was a vision of a world created out of kindness,
and of a people called to live in kindness.

SO, WE OFFER THANKS AND PRAISE.

From early days,
while things went wrong for the human people,
compassion, love and faithfulness remained.
because your love stood strong.

SO. WE OFFER THANKS AND PRAISE.

O God of beauty and holiness,
in the fullness of time
love and kindness met us in the spirit-beguiling person of Jesus:
strong and inspiring,
risen and wonderful.

SO, WE OFFER THANKS AND PRAISE.

We would build with him
his better world, O God
But our fear of failure,
our perverse love of vanity,
and our turning towards unjust gain,
made us stumble on our way.

We want to do better, O God,
but, for now, simply we say:

. . . Lord have mercy.
CHRIST HAVE MERCY.
Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

. . . Indeed, I say to you in the name of Christ:
You are forgiven and you are free.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

Prayer of Supplication:

God, you captured the imagination of a Psalmist,
kindling the flame of hope within his heart.
You moved him to confess his short comings,
and yet to be a person intent on renewal.

**CAPTURE OUR IMAGINATION ALSO,
THAT WE MIGHT BECOME PEOPLE OF HOPE,
CO-CREATORS OF YOUR NEW CREATION.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,
AMEN.

The Lessons: Psalm 119: 33-40
1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

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

Aria: Love Triumphant
Alfred Wheeler (1865-1949)

Sermon: A bowl of bees?

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

Music for Reflection: Meditation No. 5
Caleb Simper (1856-1942)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*To the minister's words " From the psalmist's fear, to the psalmist's hope",
you are invited to respond, **"CALL US, LORD JESUS"**.*

**. . . 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 Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.

BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

**BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER,
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, 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.

Communion Hymn:

The Call

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Come, my way, my truth, my life,
such a way as gives us breath,
such a truth as ends all strife,
such a life as killeth death. | 2. Come, my light, my feast, my strength,
such a light as shows a feast,
such a feast as mends in length,
such a strength as makes his guest. |
| 3. Come, my joy, my love, my heart,
such a joy as none can move,
such a love as none can part,
such a heart as joys in love. | |

George Herbert (1593-1633)

We sit for

The Invitation, Institution, Setting Apart of the Elements

The Great Eucharistic Prayer:

May God be with you.

AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Lift up your hearts.

WE LIFT THEM TO GOD.

Let us give thanks to the world's creator.

IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.

It is right indeed . . .

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God:

Jesus, Lamb of God,

HAVE MERCY ON US.

JESUS, BEARER OF OUR SINS,

HAVE MERCY ON US.

JESUS, REDEEMER OF THE WORLD,

GRANT US YOUR PEACE.

The Communion

The Prayer After Communion

Eternal God,

we give you thanks and praise

that while we were still far off

you met us in your Son, and brought us home.

MAY WE WHO SHARE HIS BREAD

LIVE HIS RISEN LIFE;

WE WHO DRINK HIS CUP

BRING LIFE TO OTHERS;

WE WHOM THE SPIRIT LIGHTS

GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD,

THAT ALL YOUR CHILDREN SHALL BE FREE,

AND THE WHOLE EARTH LIVE TO PRAISE YOUR NAME.

AMEN.

Hymn:
Hyfrydol

Rowland Huw Prichard (1811-1887)



1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown:
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave:
thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.
3. Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation,
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love and praise.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Quirky Postlude: March No. 6 in G major
Caleb Simper (1856-1942)

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