



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 14 June 2020



THE CANNABIS QUESTION

The Knox Church Council agreed to hold a couple of events, prior to the General Election in September, to explore issues around the two referendum questions: legalisation of cannabis for recreational use, and euthanasia.

Today's service is dedicated to thinking theologically around the issue of recreational use of cannabis. No attempt is made to argue any particular position. It is hoped the service will help you begin to think about the topic.

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, GOD'S WISDOM IN A HUMAN FORM;

JESUS, TURNING WATER INTO WINE;

JESUS, CALLING US TO CONSIDER WHAT HUMAN LIFE IS FOR.

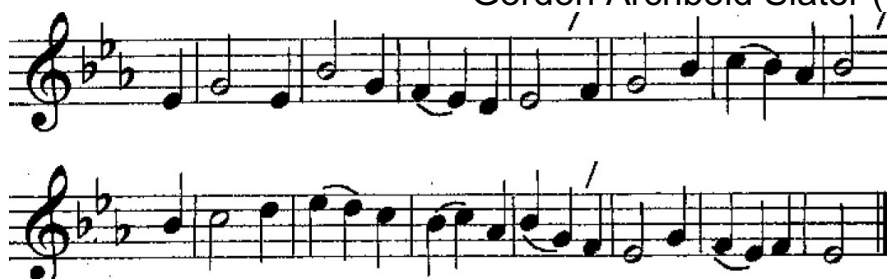
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

St Botolph

Gordon Archbold Slater (1896-1979)



1. Who fathoms the Eternal Thought?
Who talks of scheme and plan?
For God is God, and has no need
for schemes of human hand.
2. I walk with bare, hushed feet the ground
Christ treads with boldness shod;
I dare not fix with sense and sight
the love and power of God.
3. I know not what the future has
of marvel or surprise,
assured alone that life and death
God's mercy underlies.
4. I know not where God's islands lift
their fronded palms in air;
I only know I cannot drift
beyond such love and care.
5. And so beside the silent sea
I wait the muffled oar;
no harm shall ever come to me
on ocean or on shore.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt.

Prayer of Approach

Who fathoms the eternal thought?

WHO TALKS OF SCHEME AND PLAN?

Within the wondrous world,
human beings ponder many things:
where we came from, what life is for,
how should we live, whom do we serve.

WHO FATHOMS THE ETERNAL THOUGHT?

WHO TALKS OF SCHEME AND PLAN?

At a wedding,
the Nazareth guest provides fine wine.
Where did it come from,
and what does it mean?

Is God blessing the gathering,
when already we've had too much?

WHO FATHOMS THE ETERNAL THOUGHT?

WHO TALKS OF SCHEME AND PLAN?

He rails against the Pharisees,
as if he's indignant on our behalf.
Is this the reaction of someone who loves us too much?
Are we his beloved?

**WHO FATHOMS THE ETERNAL THOUGHT?
WHO TALKS OF SCHEME AND PLAN?**

Before the beauty and generosity of God,
shown forth in Christ,
we offer our silent praise.

Silence

We offer also our confession.
For the world's self-indulgence,
for its gangs and crimes,
for its commodification of people,
and its misery-guts,
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:

Eternal God,
in Jesus, you showed us
a human life exquisitely lived,
with grace and wisdom,
with peace and joy.
**MAY OUR HEARTS FIND REST IN HIS HEART,
OUR MINDS FIND REST IN HIS MIND,
THAT WE TOO
MIGHT LIVE FULLY AND WELL.**

We pray this in his 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

Our next Sunday School gathering is next week, 21 June. For today, young ones are welcome to enjoy the play area at the rear of the church.

***A series of readings, reflections
and shortened hymns
on aids to relaxation, excess,
people who should not be in charge,
and what the human body is for***

Preamble

The First Lesson: John 2: 1-10

A Reflection: A nice jar of wine

We remain seated to sing

Hymn:

Kremser

Eduard Kremser (1838-1914)



1. Sing praise and thanksgiving, let all creatures living
now worship their maker with gladness and song;
all glory and honour we bring to God, singing:
O praise to the Almighty,
sing praise to our God!
2. Our lives of God's making Christ brings to their waking
in darkness we've been held in deep, gracious care,
now into the light we are called from our sleeping:
O praise to the Almighty,
sing praise to our God!

*Paul Gerhardt (1607-1676),
tr. Margaret Barclay (b. 1923),
adapted by Colin Gibson, then again by Matthew Jack.*

The Second Lesson: Genesis 9: 18-23

A Reflection: O, Noah!



One of many pictures of Noah's ark



Picture of Noah getting drunk

We remain seated to sing

Hymn:

Repton

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)



1. Dear God, embracing humankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re-clothe us in our rightful mind:
in purer lives your service find,
in deeper reverence praise.
2. Breathe through the heats of our desire
your coolness and your balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892)

The Third Lesson: Luke 11: 46-50

A Reflection: A gang of Pharisees



We remain seated to sing

Hymn:

Londonderry Air

Irish traditional melody



1. Fold to your heart your sister and your brother:
where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;
to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.
For he whom Jesus loved has truly spoken:
the holier worship, which he deigns to bless
restores the lost, and binds the spirit broken,
and feeds the widow and the fatherless.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt.

The Fourth Lesson: 1 Corinthians 6: 19-20

A Reflection: A shameless last go at the body

Music for Reflection: Trumpet Voluntary
Simon Stublely (1702-1748)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Janet Wilson

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Blessed by the God of generosity,
we offer this money and food.

**MAY ITS USE BE GUIDED
BY THE WISDOM OF GOD,
FOR THE BLESSING OF THE WORLD,
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Slane

Irish traditional melody



1. Be now my vision, O God of my heart,
nothing surpasses the love you impart -
you my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.
2. Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me;
now and forever your child I will be.
3. Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you my inheritance, now and always:
you and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.
4. Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Irish hymn dating from c. 8th cent

Translated: Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931)

Versified: Eleanor Henrietta Hull (1860-1935), adapt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in B-flat major
Johann Krebs (1713-1780)

*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.*

Today, tea and coffee will be served in the church following the service

Music printed in this order of service is covered
under a music copyright licence agreement: Licensing #604802

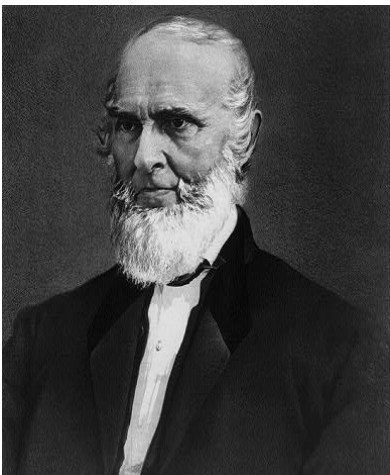
The Inter-Church Bioethics Council document

The document adopted by PCANZ as a background to the Cannabis referendum, produced by the Inter-Church Bio-ethics Council is available here:

<http://www.interchurchbioethics.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Legalisation-of-Cannabis-Referendum-Resource-Resource.pdf>

While it was produced before the referendum question was tightly focussed, and while it's not a profoundly theological document, it does present an ordered description of some matters related to the recreational use of cannabis.

John Greenleaf Whittier



Lest you think I was being hilarious, including so many hymn texts today written by a person called "Greenleaf", please be assured that I either was or wasn't. John Greenleaf Whittier was, in contrast to current connotations to his middle name, a Quaker - never inclined to be immoderate. He was also an abolitionist.

He grew up on a strawberry farm, was colour blind, and, in later life, travelled from the United States to England to hear Charles Dickens read. He didn't like Dickens' voice, but thought he had a "wonderful, dramatic power". The prolific and creative Dickens was, apparently, quite fond of opium.



NOTICES

This Week: **14 June – 20 June 2020**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
 4.00pm Knox Film Group – **see below**
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: **21 June – 27 June 2020**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Knox Film Group – Sunday 14 June 4pm in the lounge. **Quartet** – about an English home for retired musicians. When a new resident arrives, tensions arise amongst the four main characters, who include Dame Maggie Smith and the best of British actors!

Knox Book Group – Sunday 28 June at 11.15am in the Church. Year of Wonders by Geraldine Brooks. Based on the true story of the village of Eyam, who quarantined themselves when the Great Plague reached them in 1665.

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 Ph 3792456 or Janet Wilson, Donations Secretary janmwil507@gmail.com Ph 338 7203.

The next referendum service

At the September election, a second referendum question is to be put - relating to euthanasia. The Inter-Church Bio-ethics Council has produced a document on this issue. Again, it's not profoundly theologically oriented, but does present lots of information helpfully. You can find it at:

https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/sites/default/files/ICBC_Health_Select_Committee_18_Jan_2016_Final.pdf

We'll be theming our service around this issue on Sunday 28 June.



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Genesis 21: 8-21
- Matthew 10: 24-39

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

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

Visit our website
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