



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 21 February 2021



# WHAT RAINBOW?

A service for the first Sunday of Lent

## 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, LIVING BENEATH THE RAINBOW OF GOD'S LOVE;**

**JESUS, RISING UP, TO MAKE THE RAINBOW REAL FOR OTHERS;**

**JESUS, BRINGING THE GIFT OF GOOD NEWS TO ALL THE PEOPLE.**

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. God who sets us on a journey  
to discover, dream and grow,  
lead us as you led your people  
in the desert long ago;  
journey inward, journey outward,  
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,  
love for God and self and neighbour  
marks the way that Christ defined.
2. As we start our Lenten journey,  
with the Christ, t'wards the cross,  
set above us rainbow promise,  
angels at our side to bless;  
keep us travelling in the knowledge  
you are always at our side;  
give us courage for the journey,  
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

*Joy Dine (1937 – 2001), alt.*

### **Prayer of Approach**

The Lenten journey begins, dear Christ.  
We will follow you through the wilderness testing,  
through the times of doubting and fearing,  
through the days of uncertainty and solitude.

**ABOVE YOU HANGS A RAINBOW,  
BESIDE YOU ARE ANGELS.**

God is reminding you  
that the love which made you  
will keep and bless you all your days.

**IN THE QUIET,  
AS WE ALSO PRAY,  
ASSURE US OF GOD'S LOVE,  
EVER FAITHFUL.**

*Silence*

God pledges a rainbow;  
**WE SEE ONLY CLOUDS.**

God gives angels;  
**WE SAY TO THEM "GO AWAY!"**

God calls us to journey in faith;  
**WE STAY PUT AND DO NOT MOVE.**

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 faithful kindness,  
you place signs in our world,  
reminding us that we are loved.  
**GIVE US EYES TO SEE THEM,  
AND FAITH TO BE THEM,  
THAT ALL THE WORLD SHALL BE BLESSED.**

We pray this, using the words that Jesus 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.*



## **A Conversation with the Younger Ones**

**Knox Singers:** Hymn Study on Heinlein: Forty days and forty nights  
Martin Herbst (1654-1681)

### **The Young One's Prayer:**

E te Atua  
Homai to aroha ki nga Kaiako  
me ngā tamariki.  
Homai to aroha ki ngā whānau  
me tēnei hāhi  
Āmine

*O Lord,  
we give thanks for our teachers  
and the children.  
We give thanks for our families  
and the (Knox) congregation  
Amen.*

### **The 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.**

*Parents, grandparents, care-givers,  
are encouraged to join the young ones at Sunday School.*

*Our next Sunday School day is 28 March.*

**The First Lesson:** Genesis 9: 8-17

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

**The Gospel Lesson:** Mark 1: 9-15

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

**Ombersley**

## William Henry Gladstone (1840-1891)



1. Lord of all being, throned afar,  
thy glory flames from sun and star;  
centre and soul of every sphere,  
yet to each loving heart how near!
2. Sun of our life, thy quickening ray  
sheds on our path the glow of day;  
star of our hope, thy softened light  
cheers the long watches of the night.
3. Our midnight is thy smile withdrawn,  
our noontide is thy gracious dawn,  
our rainbow arch thy mercy's sign;  
all, save the clouds of sin, are thine.
4. Lord of all life, below, above,  
whose light is truth, whose warmth is love,  
before thy ever-blazing throne  
we ask no lustre of our own.
5. Grant us thy truth to make us free,  
and kindling hearts that burn for thee,  
till all thy living altars claim  
one holy light, one heavenly flame.

*Oliver Wendell Holmes (1809-1894)*

**Sermon:**

## To make a rainbow real

*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.*

*You can watch a video of this sermon being practised at:*  
<https://youtu.be/Q-fYEMJ9ay4>

## **Hymn:**

### **Ode to Joy**

Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)



1. Rainbow, rainbow, we can see you  
teasing faith, and making friends;  
Noah's rainbow, you are stretching  
oe'r the world, no start, no end.  
Speaking boldly of commitment,  
floods, disaster, put aside,  
God of rainbow, florid beauty,  
ever in our hearts abide!
2. Angels in temptation's desert,  
you are said to comfort Christ;  
you are said to keep him safely,  
keep him close to Canaan's side.  
Though we seldom see you winging  
o'er the heav'ns of skies above,  
still we claim the joy you bring us -  
God's own strength and Jesus' love.
3. So we walk the road now given,  
in the days unfolding now:  
Covid, global warming, houses,  
pains to bear we know not how.  
Christ, you are our inspiration,  
light in darkness, dread's release;  
lead us on in faith and loving,  
make of us your house of peace.

*Matthew Jack (b. 1963)*

## **Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Janet Wilson*

## **The Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

Giving thanks that we have had our eyes opened  
to the presence of God among us,

**WE PRAY THAT WE MAY SHOW GOD TO OTHERS.**

Giving thanks that we have received food,

**WE OFFER THIS FOOD TO BE ENJOYED BY OTHERS.**

Giving thanks for the money that we have gained,

**WE OFFER THIS MONEY TO THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS.**

May God bless the offering we make just now,

**IN THE NAME OF JESUS,**

**AMEN.**

## **Notices**

*We stand for*

**The Lenten Litany:**

O Christ,  
human form of God's beautiful rainbow,  
deep life declaring life for others:  
you make real

the old promises of God's care  
and of ministering angels.

Along the Lenten path

**LEAD US LORD JESUS.**

O Christ,  
you give your care  
to those who see neither rainbows  
nor angels.

Moving towards the cross,  
you mess up our hearts with hope.

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.

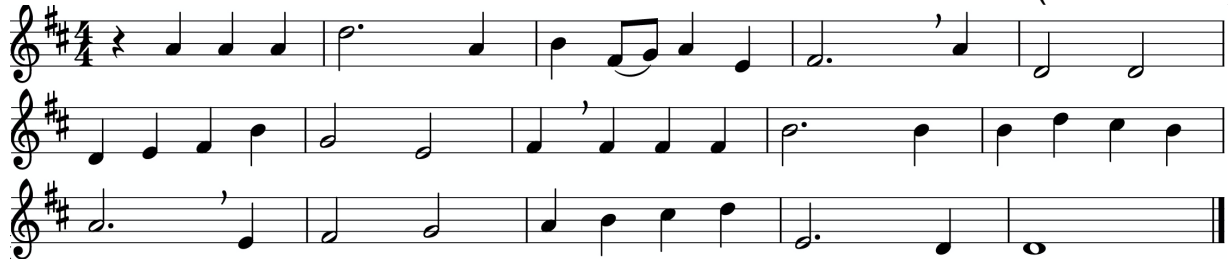
**KEEP OUR FEET FIRMLY**

**IN THE WAY WHERE CHRIST LEADS US,  
THIS LENT,  
AND ALL OUR DAYS.  
AMEN.**

**Hymn:**

Woodlands

Walter Greatorex (1877-1949)



1. Stand tall in Christ, all people of our God,  
no other idol will suffice this hour.  
In Jesus Christ all captives are set free,  
all hurts are healed and hope is born anew.
2. Stand tall in Love, all people who would dare  
be reconcilers where divisions lie;  
in love will pain and loneliness be eased  
and rainbows hung in all our hearts again.
3. Stand tall in Peace, all people who love life,  
whose lives are candles in earth's darkest place,  
who plead for justice and support the weak  
that all might live in hope and harmony.
4. Stand tall in Faith, all people who would share  
as trusting partners in God's enterprise,  
whose lives would speak in deeds, not just in words,  
of grace, forgiveness and a generous heart.

*Margaret Kouvelis (b. 1949)*

**Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Largo, from Harpsichord Concerto in F-minor, BWV 1056  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

Following the service, morning tea and coffee are served in the church

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## NOTICES

**This Week: 21 February 2021- 27 February 2021**

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 28 February 2021- 6 March 2021**

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
11.15am Knox Book Group – **see below**  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Fireside Garden Visit – Saturday 27 February.** We will be visiting Phil and Linda Duckers' garden at 85, Sutherlands Road, Halswell. This garden is a picturesque no dig garden, with wandering paths, water features, and orchard and "follies". Afternoon Tea will be provided. Cost \$10 per person, which will go to the Duckers choice of charity. Please be at Knox Car Park by 1.45pm. Lists will be at both doors to fill in. Numbers **MUST** be in by Sunday 21 February. All welcome.

**Meditation in the Christian Tradition** - The NZCCM is hosting a BYO picnic in the grounds of All Souls Church on Sat, 27 Feb. This is an ideal opportunity to explore Meditation in the Christian tradition and see if it is a form of prayer that suits you. The earliest records of Christian meditation go back to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD. Further information about the gathering may be found on the noticeboard. People of all faiths are welcome to join the New Zealand Community for Christian Meditation in this shared tradition of the deepening of the spiritual life. The wccm web-site is [wccm.org](http://wccm.org) and that for our NZ branch is <http://christianmeditation.org.nz/>

**Knox Book Group Next Week: Sunday 28th February 11.15 in the lounge:** As we approach the second anniversary of the Mosque attack, we will all remember Farid Ahmed, who spoke from his wheelchair at the Memorial Service about forgiving the attacker. Today we will look at his book **Husna's Story**, in which he shares his life story, and his philosophy of forgiveness, love and peace.

**Book Lovers!!** Do take a moment to look at the fabulous new enhanced book case in the old foyer. There are all varieties of reading for you! There is also a tiny sample in the new foyer for you to peruse today. Or you may have books you no longer need, so bring them along to the office or to church. ALL books are welcome! This is a Knox Fundraiser – in 2019 we raised \$1000 and in 2020, despite six months with no hirers, we raised \$500. Well done everyone!!



**March Knox Life** - Contributions are invited for the next issue of Knox Life which will be published in March. Please think about sending to the office any item of interest - comments, poems, photos, reviews etc. Closing date is 1 March.

**Flowers** - If you wish to contribute to the cost of flowers or provide flowers for the church, in either memory of a loved one or the celebration of a birthday, wedding anniversary, etc please contact the office and advise them of the date and celebration and this will be included in the newsletter for that date alternatively contact either Barbara or Rochelle Howley.

**With Love to the World** - If you are wanting to receive your own copy of the daily bible readings "With love to the world" for 2021 please let Trudy Heney know. Contact: [heneytrudy@gmail.com](mailto:heneytrudy@gmail.com) or 0210301096. There are 4 issues a year (Feb, May, Aug, Dec) at a total cost for the year of \$45. The notes start on 15 February 2021.

**Lenten Programme 2021: Experiencing Jesus** Based on the writing of N.J. Scholar Marcus Borg (author of 'Meeting Jesus for the first time'). This relaxed small group setting is an opportunity to answer Jesus' questions to the disciples, 'Who do you say I am' in the light of 21st Century experience. **Time:** Sunday Mornings **BEFORE** worship 9am – 9.45 am. **Dates:** Pre-Easter Jesus March 7, 14, 21. Post-Easter Jesus April 11, 18. Yes, it is different being before church but its also a nice and fresh way to start Sunday. The season is still warm! Think about it. Len Pierce.

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.



## And what angel would that be?

St Matthew and the Angel,  
Rembrandt,  
1661



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

- Psalm 22: 23-31
- Romans 4: 13-25

## Knox Directory

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Office hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs - 9.00am-noon

Wed, Friday - 10:00am - noon

Visit our website

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



website

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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,

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## 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