



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 23 May 2021



THE GOD OF MANY TONGUES a service for the Day of Pentecost

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.

The Call to Worship: Acts 2: 1-8, 12

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? . . .

**ALL WERE AMAZED AND PERPLEXED,
SAYING TO ONE ANOTHER "WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?"**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Abbot's Leigh

Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)



1. Fire of God, titanic Spirit,
burn within our hearts today;
fill this place - and may your goodness
shine through us in every way:
fan the tiny flame of worship,
drown our doubting, wake our soul;
and through Jesus Christ who claims us,
bless and love us, make us whole.
2. Wind of God, dynamic Spirit,
breathe upon our hearts today;
that we may your power inherit
hear us, Spirit, as we pray:
fill the vacuum that enslaves us -
emptiness of heart and soul;
and, through Jesus Christ who saves us,
give us life and make us whole.
3. Voice of God, prophetic Spirit,
speak to every heart today
to encourage or prohibit,
urging action or delay:
clear the vagueness which impedes us -
come, enlighten mind and soul;
and, through Jesus Christ who leads us,
teach the truth that makes us whole.

Michael Saward (1932-2015)

Prayer of Approach

God spoke
AND THERE WAS LIGHT.

God spoke
AND THERE WAS EARTH.

God spoke
AND THERE WERE ANIMALS.

God spoke
AND THERE WAS "US".

Pause

God spoke
AND PROPHETS ROSE UP.

God spoke
AND RULERS BOWED DOWN.

God spoke
AND JESUS APPEARED.

God spoke
AND THE STONE ROLLED AWAY.

Pause

God spoke
AND PEOPLE TOLD THE STORY.

God spoke
AND OTHERS CAME ALONG.

God spoke
AND FLAME AND WIND DESCENDED.

God spoke
AND WE JOINED THE JOURNEY.

Pause

So today God speaks
AND WE SEEK TO LISTEN.

Today God speaks
AND WE LONG TO LEARN.

Today God speaks
AND WE OFFER WORSHIP.

Today God speaks
AND WE KEEP A SILENCE.

Silence

We confess to God and to one another
that often we do not contribute to understanding in the world.
We use our words, gifts from God,
to divide, confuse and hurt.
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:

Spirit of God,
at Pentecost you came upon the gathered crowd.
To a United Nations of people,
with many languages and stories,
you came as wind and flame
speaking a gospel they could understand together.
**COME ALSO TO US, THIS DAY,
OPENING HEART, MIND AND MOUTH,
FOR THE GLORY AND PRAISE
OF YOUR HOLY NAME.**

Since our words have limits
and sometimes sound silly,
we make our prayers
using the words that Jesus gave us,
saying:

**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.

Our next Sunday School day is 20 June. Today the young ones, under the loving care of their significant adults, are welcome to enjoy the play area at the back of the church.

The First Lesson: Romans 8: 22-27

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

Knox Singers: Like the Murmur of the Dove's song
Alan Smith (b. 1962)

The Gospel Lesson: John 16: 12-15

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

Hymn:

Sursum Corda

Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971)



1. Eternal Spirit of the living Christ,
I know not how to ask, or what to say;
I only know my need, as deep as life,
and only you can teach me how to pray.

2. Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day;
help me to see your purpose and your will -
where I have failed, what I have done amiss;
held in forgiving love, let me be still.
3. Come with the vision and the strength I need
to serve my God, and all humanity;
fulfilment of my life in love outpoured -
my life in you, O Christ, your love in me.

Frank von Christerson (1900-1996)

Sermon:

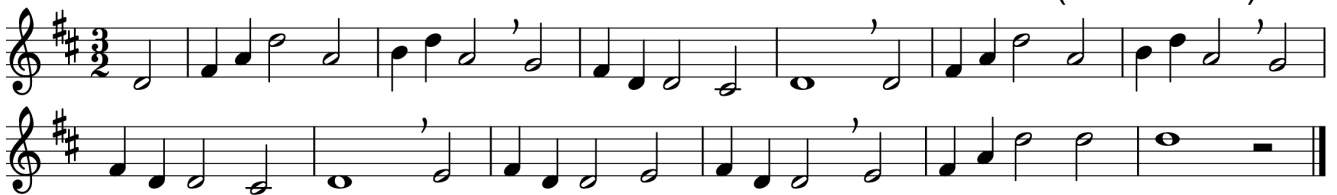
God's new "Kia Ora"?

A video of this sermon being practised has been uploaded to YouTube and the link will go live at 10:00am today. Go to: https://youtu.be/gSr_ZIFb4mo The script is available at: <http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html>, and hard copies are available in the church foyer.

Hymn:

Brother James' Air

James Leith MacBeth Bain (1860-1925)



1. Teach us, O loving heart of Christ,
what only love can say:
"Father, forgive" and still forgive
the blindness of our way,
"Father, forgive" and still forgive
the blindness of our way
2. We have not healed our neighbour's hurt
nor learned our neighbour's tongue:
across the span of creed and race
your song is not yet sung . . .
3. Christ in whose hands were thrust the nails
and yet for us could pray -
forgive the things we have not done,
the words we do not say . . .

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Lesley Hunt

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

May this offering of food and money
make a positive difference in the wider world.

**AND MAY OUR WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN
AND TO SPEAK WELL
ALSO BRING A BLESSING TO OTHERS.
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Spiritus Vitae

Mary Jane Hammond (1878-1964)



1. O breath of life, come sweeping through us,
revive your church with life and power;
O breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,
and fit your church to meet this hour.
2. O wind of God, come bend us, break us,
till humbly we confess our need;
then in your tenderness remake us,
revive, restore: for this we plead.
3. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating
while harvest fields are vast and white?
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,
equip your church to spread the light.

Elizabeth Ann Porter Head (1850-1936)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Mon âme cherche une fin paisible
Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

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

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NOTICES

This Week: **23 May - 29 May 2021**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: **30 May – 5 June 2021**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
 11.15am Knox Book Group – *see below*
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Knox Book Group – Sunday 30 May 11.15am - Kim Bathgate will talk about three inspiring autobiographies by and about mountaineers. **Seven Years in Tibet** by the Austrian Heinrich Harrer tells of the author's experiences in Tibet between 1939 and 1951, and the upheavals he experienced. This award-winning book published in 1952 was filmed in 1997, starring Brad Pitt. We will watch it on Sunday 13th June. The second book, also by Heinrich Harrer, is **The White Spider**, tells of the team who finally conquered the Eiger's North Face in 1938. The third award-winning book is **Touching the Void** by Joe Simpson, published in 1988, which recounts his near fatal descent with his companion Simon Yates, after climbing in the Peruvian Andes.

Congregational Meeting - A congregational meeting will be held immediately after the church service on Sunday 30 May. Tangata Atumotu Trust wishes to lease a number of rooms upstairs in the Knox Centre and congregational approval must be obtained before that can be progressed.

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.



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS 2021

Our annual service for the blessing of the animals is happening earlier than usual this year, on 20 June. As ever, Matthew would be happy to include any pet photos in the slide show, but he'll be on annual leave until just a couple of days before the service, so please email him your photos by Tuesday 1 June (minister@knoxchurch.co.nz). He'll then be able to produce the slide show before going on leave.



From Christian World Service

Thank you for helping mothers feed their families.

Khawla is another mother who loves to share what she has learnt with other refugee mothers. A Palestinian refugee, she has lived in Jordan for many years. The death of her husband in 2009, left her with a very heavy burden. She had to find a way to raise her five children with little support. With only a high school education, she could not find a job that earned enough to support them. While she received some rations from the United Nations, it was not enough.



Her life began to change for the better in 2010. From others she heard that DSPR Jordan was working with a volunteer committee at the Hitteen Refugee camp where she lived. Desperate she contacted one of the woman who welcomed her warmly. Soon she began attending activities and workshops. In the workshops, she learned new skills - sewing, crochet, soap making, candle manufacturing and sweet production. It was not long before she joined the volunteer committee. Crochet captured her interest first. She established a small business, selling garments in neighbourhood bazaars. With the income she earnt, she bought materials to produce cosmetics and other accessories that she could sell at a good price in her community.

Seeing her abilities and determination, DSPR gave her a small loan. She expanded her business producing new products for weddings and newborn babies. She crocheted capes and scarves for winter.

“With all of these blessings, one of my daughters has a diploma degree in fashion design and another is studying nursing. The other two and my son are in high school.

“The opportunity that DSPR gave me, allowed me to be strongly involved in voluntary work in other parts of Jordan,” she adds.

Last month she won an Excellence and Leadership Award in Voluntary Work from the Ministry of Social Development.



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Romans 8: 12-17
- John 3: 1-17

Knox Directory

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Mon, Tues, Thurs - 9.00am-noon
Wed, Friday - 10:00am - noon

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website

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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