



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

11 July 2021



# FROM OUR PLACE BENEATH THE STARS

a service for Matariki

## 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:

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

**JESUS, WHO LIVED UNDER THE SAME STARS THAT WE SEE;  
JESUS, LEAVING WHAT HE KNEW FOR WHAT GOD WOULD SHOW HIM;  
JESUS, WHOSE HOPE FOR US REACHES RIGHT INTO OUR TIME.**

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

**MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.**

### Hymn:

Dunedin

Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985)



1. Where mountains rise to open skies  
your name, O God, is echoed far,  
from island beach to kauri's reach,  
in water's light, in lake and star.
2. Your people's heart, your people's part  
be in our caring for this land,  
for faith to flower, for aroha  
to let each other's mana stand.
3. From broken word, from conflict stirred,  
from lack of vision, set us free  
to see the line of your design,  
to feel creation's energy.
4. Your love be known, compassion shown,  
that every child have equal scope:  
in justice done, in trust begun  
shall be our heritage and hope.
5. Where mountains rise to open skies  
your way of peace distil the air,  
your spirit bind all humankind,  
one covenant of life to share!

*Shirley Murray (1931-2020)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

From this land of mountains  
and open skies,  
from the rimu sapling clinging to the earth,  
to the distant shining of the stars,  
**WE WORSHIP GOD WHO MADE ALL THINGS.**

From the turning of the year,  
to the coming of the time  
when all things rest  
as we draw the circle and tell our stories,  
**WE WORSHIP GOD  
WHO SOWS SEEDS OF SPIRIT  
AND SILENTLY GROWS WHAT WE NEED.**

From our heritage,  
our many tales of war and friendship,  
for the faithful ones from then  
whom we know hoped for our existence  
and our good,

**WE WORSHIP THE GOD OF LIFE.**

As stars move above us,  
and as frost pricks the ground,  
as time ticks  
and we learn endlessly that God is good,  
**WE WELCOME INTO OUR EARS AND HEARTS  
THE PROMISE OF A GOD WHO LOVES.**

*Silence*

Now our confession:

We accept too readily the merchants of gloom.  
We act as if there is no future or hope,  
no good inheritance from our lives  
to pass on to people who have yet to be.  
We cling to all manner of weighty stuff  
that we know we really ought not to carry -  
and that we know hurts those around us.

Hoping that faith will make us whole,  
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:**

Beneath your stars and sky, O God,  
and remembering your great love for us all,  
we express our gratitude for those who went before us  
and our living hope for those who will follow us.

**IN OUR SACRED REMEMBERING,  
MAY WE BECOME TRUE CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM,  
LEAVING A LEGACY OF HOPE AND LIFE  
TO THOSE WHO STILL HAVE YET TO BE.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
and offer our prayer in the words he gave us, together 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 8 August. 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:** Genesis 15: 1-6

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

**The Second Lesson:** Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-12

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

**Hymn:**

Sine Nomine

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. Give thanks for life,  
the measure of our days,  
mortal, we pass through  
beauty that decays,  
yet sing to God our hope,  
our love, our praise,  
Alleluia!
2. Give thanks for those  
who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame,  
bursting through the night,  
who touched the truth, who  
burned for what is right,  
Alleluia!
3. And for our own, our living  
and our dead,  
thanks for the love by  
which our life is fed,  
a love not changed by time  
or death or dread,  
Alleluia!
4. Give thanks for hope,  
that like the wheat, the grain  
lying in darkness  
does its life retain,  
in resurrection  
to grow green again.  
Alleluia!

*Shirley Murray (1931-2020)*

**Sermon:** Remembering and hoping

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.

**Music for Reflection:** Pastorale  
Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

**Hymn:**  
Crucifer

Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)

*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim  
'Till all the world adore his glorious name!*

1. Come Christian people, sing your praises, shout!  
If we are silent, even stones cry out . . .
2. Jesus, you wept to see our human strife,  
Teach us compassion for each human life . . .
3. Peace was your plea and peace your loving theme  
Let peace be our passport, peace a living dream . . .
4. Great is the cost of walking on this road,  
To follow and suffer with the Son of God . . .
5. Worlds to be born and children yet to be  
Come, take up this song into eternity . . .

*Shirley Murray (1931-2020)  
based on George William Kitchin (1827-1912) alt.*

## Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*led by Ken Booth*

*To Ken's words "Beneath the stars, O God",  
you are invited to respond*

**"HELP US TRUST WHERE YOU HAVE LED AND ARE LEADING US".**

## The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

May God grow silently the good things that have been planted.

**MAY GOD SPIN THE STARS ENABLINGLY AROUND OUR HOPES.**

May God use what we offer,

**AND MAY GOD RAISE FROM ANY BARREN OFFERING  
A BEAUTIFUL NEW FUTURE.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,

**AMEN.**

## Notices

### 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**

**Postlude:** March in G  
Caleb Simper (1856-1942)

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

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# NOTICES

**This Week: 11 July - 17 July 2021**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 18 July - 24 July 2021**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Monday 7.30pm Knox Fireside Group – *see below*  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Sunday lunch 18 July** - Join us for a pleasant lunch, in good company, at the Urban Eatery café, at Oderings Barrington Garden Centre in Stourbridge St. There is ample parking, and a reservation has been made for us for midday. If you would like to come along, then please, add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance. If you forgot to put your name down but would like to join us, you can also email [jannekenyuysink@gmail.com](mailto:jannekenyuysink@gmail.com) but preferably no later than Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Knox Fireside Group** -The next meeting of the Knox Fireside Group will be the AGM on Monday July 19 at 7.30 in the Knox Lounge. Matthew Jack will be the speaker. All welcome.

**Morning Tea Roster** - As the morning tea roster runs out in August a new roster will be drawn up from September 2021 to February 2022. Additional helpers would be appreciated. If you feel you could assist, please contact Jennifer McKinnon, the duty team leader or the church office. Thank you.

**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.**



One large spent thing (one imagines that used to be the boast of a nation concerned to project power among the nations), abandoned in the middle of nowhere. Is there room for this in your tent? Do you feel called to carry this into your tomorrow?

**Matt 11: 28-29**

"Come to me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

Get rid of it!



## The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 23
- Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

## 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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## 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