



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 10 October 2021



The Limits of Merit

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.

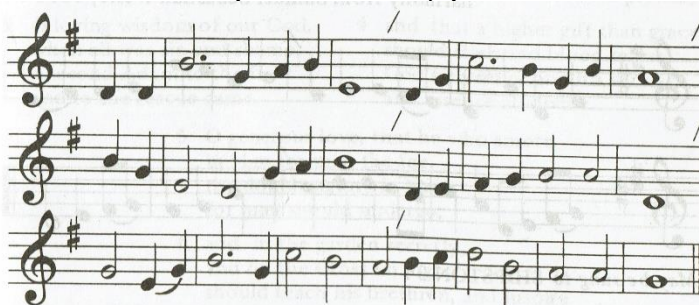
We take care to use inclusive language in our services. References to God in traditional prayers and hymns may sometimes be gender-specific. As we pray and sing together, you're invited to adapt the words we've chosen.

The Limits of Merit

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.
The peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

Call to Worship:

Frederick A. Styles *Worship For An Easter People* 'Volume 4' (Ontario: enThusia Enterprises 1978) p. 1-20.



WOV 77 For the beauty of the earth

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies,

*Christ, our God, to thee we raise
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light,
3. For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,
for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight.
4. For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild,
5. For each perfect gift of thine
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,
6. For the church that evermore
lifteth holy hands above,
offering up on every shore
her pure sacrifice of love,

Prayer of Praise and Adoration

We come to worship as citizens of a world of science where wonder and amazement is replaced by evolution and equations.

Yet faced with the cold sharpness of a star strewn night or the warmth of a setting sun we still feel the music of creation's dance filling our very being.

Beyond reason, ancient story and poetry brings comprehension and opens our understanding of the divine breath that brings all things into being in an ongoing timeless contrast of swirling galaxies and regenerating interdependent life.

As humanity seeks understanding of its call to community the eternal Spirit has inspired leaders, sages and prophets.

People of vision who have guided tribes and nations even calling populations to great journeys from slavery to lands of promise.

In the life and witness of Jesus Christ people found an image of God, and the reality of the interconnectedness of divinity and humanity.

Jesus' loving acceptance and violent death modelled the empathy each person is called to hold for each other and a hospitality that includes all people within the diverse human community.

We come to worship in wonder and praise of the God we see in all things.

God in Christ and risen in each of us calling all people to their true humanity.

Amen

Lament

However, in its fixation with regulations and obsession with acquisition, humanity seldom reaches its true potential.

Fear and greed replace empathy and compassion.

Group unity is sought by shutting out those perceived to be different,

The fortunate few consistently blame those excluded for their marginalisation.

Peace is understood as an absence of war therefore a quest for peace involves violence and domination.

Lovingkindness and forgiveness is perceived as weakness and the pursuit of justice easily becomes as quest for revenge.

5

People seek retribution for past hurts across generations and allow mistakes and misfortune to limit their futures.

Learning is often reduced to standardised assessable achievements without regard for imagination.

In the insatiable quest for merit a stumble along the way can easily limit ongoing possibility and creativity.

In recognising humanity's shortcomings, we constantly seek the inclusive love and hospitality of Christ.

Words of Assurance

The way of Christ is the journey
towards the promise of who we can become.
To live as Christ for others opens the future of no regrets
and a resurrected future beyond our wildest hopes.

Thanks be to God

We conclude our opening prayers using the words we believe Jesus taught his disciples.

**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 forever. Amen.**

Passing the peace

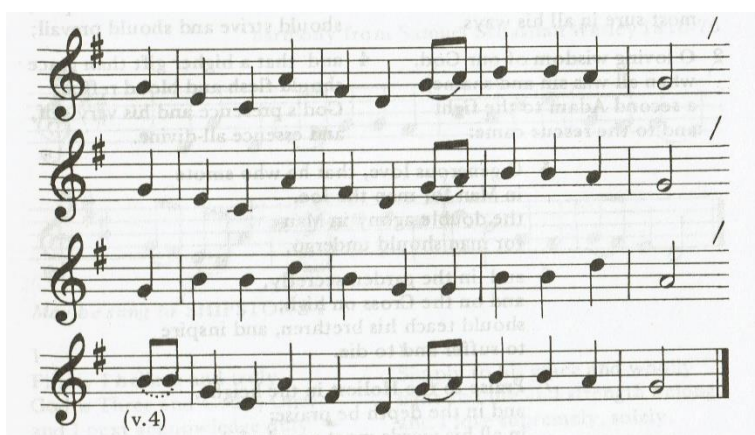
The peace of Christ be with you all **And also with you**

The First Lesson: Job 23: 1-9 16-17

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

The Gospel Lesson: Mark 10: 17-31

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



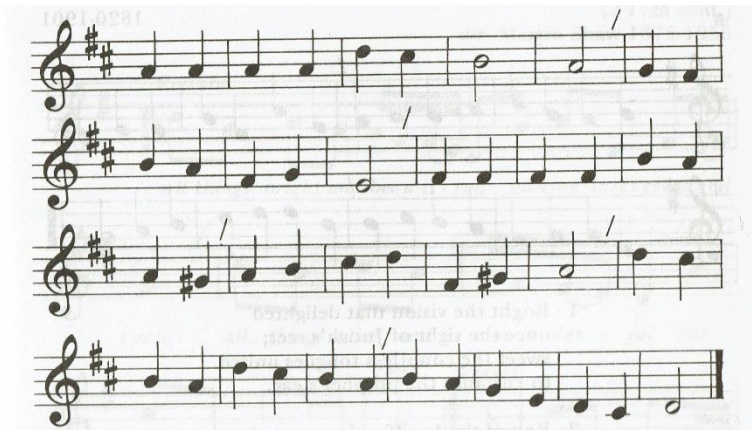
***Hymn WOV 80* Immortal, invisible, God only wise (TiS 143 words)**

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, but ruling in might;
your justice like mountains high soaring above,
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. You give life to all, Lord, to both great and small,
in all life now living, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on a tree,
then wither: but ever unchanged you will be.
4. Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;

of all your rich graces this grace, Lord, impart –
take the veil from our faces, the veil from our heart.

5. All praise we would render: reveal to our sight
what hides you is only the splendour of light;
and so let your glory, Almighty, impart
through Christ in the story, your Christ to the heart.

Sermon



Praise with joy the world's Creator (tune WOV68)

1. Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love and peace,
source and end of human knowledge,
force of goodness without cease.
Celebrate the maker's glory -
power to rescue and release.
2. Praise the Son, who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost,
heals the sick, upsets the powerful,
fearless of both fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence -
friend and stranger, Guest and Host.
3. Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race and gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure -
foolishness none dare deride.

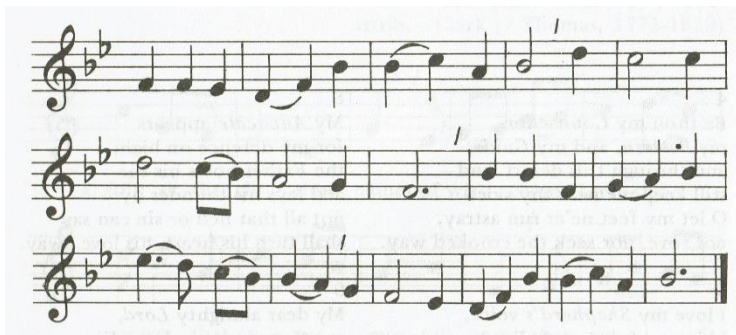
4. Praise the Maker, Son and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
Thus the world shall yet believe, when
shown Christ's vibrant unity.

Wild Goose Resource Group (used by permission)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

The Offering and Dedication

Notices



WOV 136 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. For him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice;
3. people and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

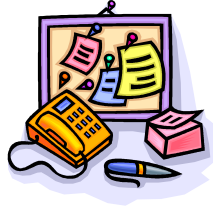
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains;
the weary find eternal rest;
and all who suffer want are blessed.
5. Where he displays his healing power
death and the curse are known no more;
in him the tribes of Adam boast
more blessings than their father lost.
6. Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long amen.

Issac Watts revised words TiS 207

Commissioning and benediction **with sung amen**

Frederick A. Styles *Worship For An Easter People* 'Volume 3' (Ontario: enThusia Enterprises 1981) pIV-10

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NOTICES

This Week: 10 October –16 October 2021

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study (not currently being held)

Next Week: 17 October –23 October 2021

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Monday 7.30pm Knox Fireside Group – **see below**
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study (not currently being held)

Knox Church Open Day for the Christchurch Heritage Festival 2021 on TODAY 1.30 – 3.30pm any helpers welcome.

Sunday lunch 17 Oct – After having to cancel last month, due to Covid levels, we are hoping to be able to get together again for lunch this month at the Oderings Barrington café (Urban Eatery). Usual time of 12 pm. Please, add your name to one of the lists at the church entrance if you are keen to join us, or email jannekenyuysink@gmail.com (by Wednesday the 13th).

Monday 18th October - The next meeting of the Knox Fireside Group will be on Monday October 18 at 7 30pm in the Knox Lounge. The speaker will be John Church who will show and talk about his wood carvings. All welcome

What to do with milk and soft drink bottle tops? – Bring them to Knox and put them in a marked container in the new foyer.

A school student living near me uses milk bottle tops and soft drink tops to make skateboards and other items which he sells as a fundraiser for rowing - (each skateboard use 1200 tops!) - So, he needs plenty and is grateful for all he can get.

Many thanks **Jennifer McKinnon**

BAKING FOR CHRISTMAS

As we did last year, we will be baking for Christmas with all the proceeds going to the lighting. There will be Christmas Cakes: Small 10cm, Medium 15cm, Large 22-23cm, Truffles, Afghans and Shortbread made by Doug Shaw.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

All recipes and some ingredients will be given. Can you make Christmas Cakes and/or truffles? Donations of money to go towards the ingredients, seek and collect orders?

TIMETABLE

- October – Order forms go out
- October 31st – all orders to be returned
- November – make Christmas Cakes and truffles
- December 4th – morning packing baking

If you can help in anyway, please contact:

Jennifer McKinnon, Email: Jennifer.mckinnon@xtra.co.nz or 338 0333 or Jane and Lynda in the Office, Email: office@knoxchurch.co.nz or 379 2456. Extra order forms can be obtained from the Church Office or from the table in the foyer.

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.

Readings for Sunday 17th October **Job 38:1-7 Mark 10: 35-44**

Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave,
Ōtautahi Christchurch 8013

Secretary: Jane Ellis,
ph. (03) 379 2456,

office@knoxchurch.co.nz

Office hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs - 9.00am-noon

Wed, Friday - 10:00am - noon

Visit our website

www.knoxchurch.co.nz



website

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack

minister@knoxchurch.co.nz

for emergencies (03) 3570 111

Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
ph. (03) 338 7203

Organist: Daniel Cooper,

daniel.organist@gmail.com

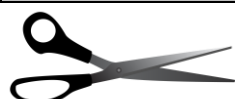
Director of the Knox Singers:

Gabriel Baird,

gabrielbaird.nz@gmail.com

Pastoral Assistant: Jan Harland

ph. 0273560215



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