



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 21 November 2021



A VISION OF SOVEREIGNTY

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.

Pre-service Music - the organ music before the service is an extended improvisation on the hymn tunes featured in the service.

The Call to Worship:

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

JESUS, WHO SUFFERED UNDER PONTIUS PILATE;

JESUS, WHOSE KINGDOM WAS IN, BUT NOT OF, THIS WORLD;

JESUS, WHOSE ETERNAL REIGN IS DIGNITY AND TRUTH.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Warrington

Ralph Harrison (1748-1810)





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 blest.
5. Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long amen.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Prayer of Approach

We might see every creature
offering highest honour to Jesus, the king.
We might see someone
putting the very fingerprint of heaven
on earthly things.
He comes, however, to the attention
of a Roman officer
only as a problem,
some pathetic pretender.

WHO ARE YOU, KING JESUS?

We might imagine people and realms of every tongue
dwelling on his love,
finding it giving them such deep harmony.
We might find his name like some sweet perfume,
filling the world with wonder.
To the Roman officer
his is a name better forgotten,
never having been spoken.
WHO ARE YOU, KING JESUS?

We might find him loosing the chains of the prison,
being in the leaping up high of those who were weary.
We might find him in the flying of angels
and the laughing of the children.
To the Roman officer,
he's a problem of a person,
with a problem of a kingdom pinned to his sleeve.
What on earth to do with this problem!
WHO ARE YOU, KING JESUS?

We dare to believe,
and help our unbelief,
that God was in Christ.
**WE DARE TO BELIEVE
THAT HE SHONE WITH GRACE AND TRUTH.**

We believe that in him we found our dignity.
**WE DARE TO BELIEVE
THAT HE HAS MADE US CITIZENS OF HEAVEN.**

Help our unbelief, O God,
AND HEAR OUR SILENT PRAISE.

Silence

We confess, O God,
that we, like the Roman officer,
struggle to receive the kingdom stretched before us.
We prefer propaganda to truth.
We prefer naked power to gentle sway.
We pay our taxes to other kings.
**WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO
WITH THIS CURIOUS KING JESUS,
OR WITH HIS FAITHFUL PEOPLE.**

As we turn on him
and one another,
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:

O God,
your truth and grace
found human form in Jesus, the king.
While his reign was not of the world,
it became in the world
freedom and true identity
for all who heard his voice in faith.
**WITH THE FAITHFUL OF MANY GENERATIONS,
MAY WE ALSO HEAR HIS ROYAL VOICE,
COMING TO NEWNESS OF LIFE
AND TRUE CITIZENSHIP
OF THE DOMINION THAT NEVER ENDS.**

We pray this in the name and spirit of Jesus,
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.**

*In a suitably physically remote way,
we exchange a sign of peace with one another.*

*Our next Sunday School day will happen once we're out of Alert Level Two,
and will operate in way consistent with whatever constraints are recommended.*

The First Lesson: Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

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

The Gospel Lesson: John 18: 33-38a

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

Hymn:

Kingsfold

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest,
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast,"
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.

2. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.
3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“I am this dark world’s Light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.”
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that Light of life I’ll walk
till travelling days are done.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Sermon:

It doesn't quite fit

*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

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Ken Booth

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

If, in Christ, we have glimpsed a vision
of a true way of living,
if, in Christ, we have spied
wisdom and light,
if, in Christ, we have come to know
the real nature of justice and integrity,
**LEAD US, O GOD,
TO LIVE OUT OUR CITIZENSHIP OF HEAVEN.**

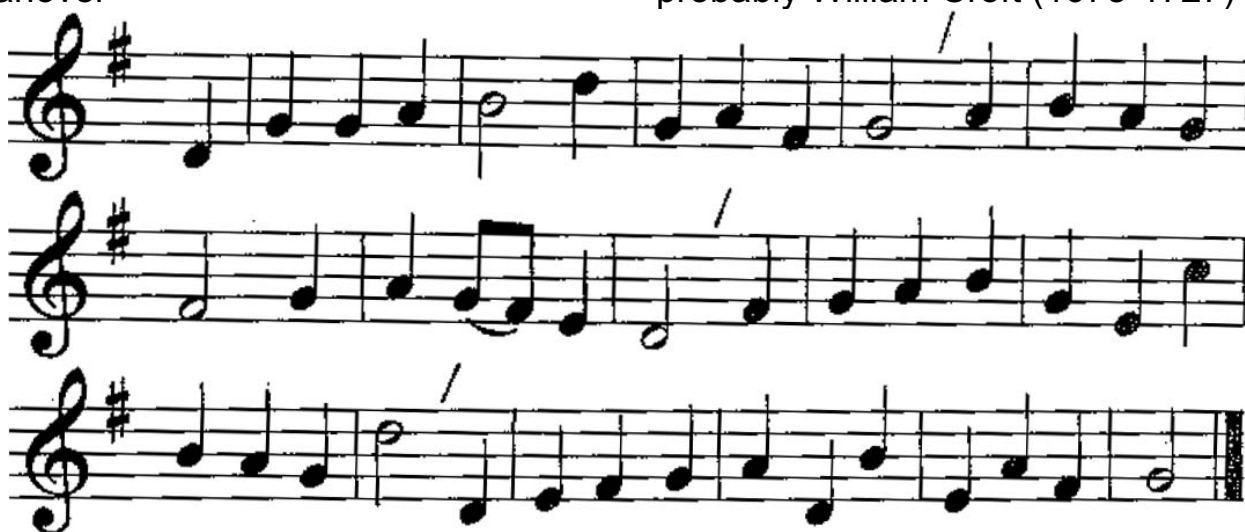
May this offering find its way to helpful use,
and may it symbolise a deeper giving of heart and mind,
**TO THE COMING OF CHRIST'S KINGDOM
IN OUR TIME.
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Hanover

probably William Croft (1678-1727)



1. The kingdom of God is justice and joy;
for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.
God's power and glory in Jesus we know;
and here and hereafter the kingdom shall grow.
2. The kingdom of God is mercy and grace;
the captives are freed, all people find place,
the outcast is welcomed, God's banquet to share;
and hope is awakened in place of despair.
3. The kingdom of God is challenge and choice:
believe the good news, repent and rejoice!
His love for his people, brought Christ to his cross:
our crisis of judgment for gain or for loss.
4. God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal;
in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.
The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call;
and all things cry "Glory!" to God all in all.

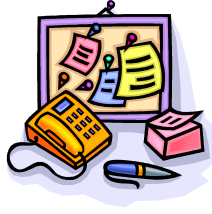
Bryn Austin Rees (1911-1983)

Benediction

Postlude

During the current Covid containment level, we are not having our usual post-service morning tea. Should you wish to linger in the church for company and conversation, please do - just remember to maintain suitable physical distancing.

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NOTICES

This Week: 21 November – 27 November 2021

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
12.00pm Lunch at Urban Eatery
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 28 November – 4 December 2021

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

PILLARS - Council has approved that for the first three Sundays in November instead of our food donations going to St Georges Iona they will be going to PILLARS. PILLARS is a group that looks after families who have family members in prison. Food especially Christmas type food, toiletries, gifts suitable for children and teenagers etc welcome and will be well used. This is the eleventh year Knox has donated goods to PILLARS.

BOOKS ABOUT THE ROYAL FAMILY - Before you head off to lunch today, please have a look at the display of Win Johnston's wonderful books about the Royal Family. Have a good browse and take any book/s which appeal. Feel free to make a donation in the box provided.

SENIORS END OF YEAR PARTY - We know how well appreciated the End of Year Seniors function is. It is one of Knox's highlights! Unfortunately, due to uncertainty over the government's requirements for gatherings during Covid times – we feel it is better to postpone until such time as we can hold the event safely.

KNOX LIFE - The next issue of Knox Life is planned for early December. Please send your thoughts, poems, articles, photos etc to the office by Monday 29 November. We need your contributions!

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.



A Season of Letters

Advent 1

Sunday 28 November
Dear Thessalonica
"to the distanced ones"

Advent 2

Sunday 5 December
Dear Philippi
"to the slowing ones"

Advent 3

Sunday 12 December
Dear Bethlehem
"to the little ones"

Advent 4

Sunday 12 December
Dear Theophilus
"to the wondering ones"
- a service of Christmas music -

Christmas Eve

11:15pm

Delivering the mail by hand

While we normally have communion and carol singing on Christmas Eve, this year, with Covid restrictions in place, we're finding a new way of reflecting on the coming of Christ. This will be a gentle, meditative service.

Christmas Day

10:00am

It's a parcel!



The Bible reading for next week will be:

- 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

Knox Directory

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Ōtautahi Christchurch 8013

Secretary: Jane Ellis,
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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

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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
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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