



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

13 March 2022



COURAGEOUS RESPONSE

**Some Pharisees tell Jesus to flee,
and Jesus says . . .**

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.

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.

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, THE COURAGEOUS PILGRIM AND CHAMPION;

JESUS, THE MOTHER HEN IN THE TARGET SIGHTS OF THE FOX;

JESUS, FIXING HIS VIEW ON THE GLORIOUS THIRD DAY.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Monk's Gate

English traditional melody



1. We who would valiant be: let us not waver,
but in true constancy follow the Saviour.
There's no discouragement shall make us once relent
our first avowed intent to live as pilgrims.
2. Those who may us surround with dismal stories,
only themselves confound; our strength the more is.
No foes shall give us fright, ours is the one true Light;
we will make our right to live as pilgrims.
3. Since, Saviour, you defend us with your Spirit,
we know we at the end shall life inherit.
Cruel rumours, flee away! We'll fear not what they say;
we'll labour night and day to live as pilgrims.

John Bunyan (1628-1688), alt.

Prayer of Approach

With a dot on its crotchet
and a quaver with a kick,
the tune bounces along its happy way,
while the words conjure up
the image of the happy Christian pilgrim.
Boxing along,
bouncing back,
absolutely confident.

IT'S A JOYOUS THOUGHT, O GOD.

And indeed, we will find our Jesus,
warned off by Pharisees,
still fixing his face towards Jerusalem.
no discouragement shall make him once relent,
his first avowed intent
to honour God in all he says, does and is.

IT IS A BRAVE HEART, O GOD.

But then he speaks of vulnerability,
of capture and cost,
of mother hen caught firmly
in the mouth of the thieving fox.
Perhaps he is not the Master of the situation,
the victor in the fray.

**HE FINESSES OUR UNDERSTANDING, O GOD,
OF CHRISTIAN COURAGE.**

Sometimes it seems
in the first instance
that the cunning fox wins,
THAT THE CUNNING FOX WINS.

It seems timely now to make our confession.
For the times when we serve the fox,
for the times when we give no shelter,
for the times when we take the easy way,
for the times when we lose track of the promise and power of Easter,
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:

Speak to us, O God,
of the courageous heart of Jesus
and of the vision that kept him focused
during times of trial and resistance.
Bless us with clarity of mind
AND SAVE US FROM FEAR.

Enable us not to be impossible super-heroes,
**BUT TO BE PEOPLE OF CHRISTIAN INTEGRITY,
FOLLOWERS OF THE CHRIST.**

We pray this in the name of that same Saviour,
using 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.**

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

Our next Sunday School day will happen once we've moved into a Green traffic light setting, and will operate in way consistent with whatever constraints are recommended.

The First Lesson: Philippians 3:17 - 4:1

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

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 13: 31-35

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



Hymn:
Austria

Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)



1. Courage, Christian! do not stumble,
though your path be dark as night;
there's a star to guide the humble:
trust in God, and do the right.
Let the road be rough and dreary,
and its end far out of sight;
foot it bravely; strong or weary,
trust in God, and do the right.
2. Perish policy and cunning,
perish all that fears the light!
Whether losing, whether winning,
trust in God, and do the right.
Some will hate you, some will love you,
some will flatter, some will slight;
heed them not, and look above you:
trust in God, and do the right.
3. Simple rule and safest guiding,
inward peace and gentle might,
star upon our path abiding,
trust in God, and do the right.
Courage, human! do not stumble,
though your path be dark as night;
there's a star to guide the humble:
trust in God, and do the right.

Norman MacLeod (1812-1872)

Sermon: The hero, the fox and the hen

Generally, sermons are posted on our website shortly after the service at:
<http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html> A video of this sermon being practised is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/eTHtygRfLm0>

Music for Reflection: Improvisation
Daniel Cooper (b. 1997)

Hymn:
Slane

Irish traditional melody



1. Be now my vision, O God of my heart,
nothing surpasses the love you impart -
you my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.
2. Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me;
now and forever your child I will be.
3. Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you my inheritance, now and always:
you and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.
4. Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Irish hymn dating from c. 8th cent

Translated: Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931)

Versified: Eleanor Henrietta Hull (1860-1935), adapt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Stephen Best

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

May the mother hen be enabled to shelter her chicks.

MAY THE FOX BE WARNED AWAY.

May fear not strike at the heart.

**MAY THE PEOPLE OF CHRIST
BE ENABLED TO DO THE BRAVE AND RIGHT THING.**

May what we offer enable all this to happen,

**TO THE PRAISE AND GLORY OF GOD,
AMEN.**

Notices

The Lenten Litany:

O Christ,
warned off by Pharisees quoting the dangers before you,
you kept your resolve
and continued to shelter the vulnerable.

Along the Lenten path,
LEAD US LORD JESUS.

O Christ,
you prompted us to speak truth to power,
to accept the cost,
while eschewing the image of the Christian super-hero.
You called us, just as we are, simply to follow you.

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:

Diademata

George J. Elvey (1816-1893)



1. Crown with your richest crowns the Lamb upon the throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Christ who lived for you,
and to your risen Saviour bring your thanks for life made new.
2. Crown Christ whose love has flowed down hands and feet and side.
Look past the peak of Calvary's road to Christ the glorified.
The sun that lights the sky is pale before that sight.
At prayer we glimpse then turn the eye from mysteries so bright.
3. Crown Christ who rules in peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise;
Christ's reign shall have no end, for 'round those wounded feet
a fragrant garden shall extend forever green and sweet.
4. Crown Christ who holds the years, embracing space and time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail, for your great love for me;
your praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) and Godfrey Thring (1823-1903) alt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: A Minor Prelude and Fugue
Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1762)

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: **13 March - 19 March 2022**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: **20 March - 26 March 2022**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

PEACE STUDIES 2022 - Deferred until further notice.

Sunday lunch 20 March – Let's be optimistic and hope we can have lunch together at the Urban Eatery café (Oderings, Barrington). A table will be reserved for us from 12pm. Attendance lists are at the church entrance; please add your name if you'd like to come along or send an email to jannekenyuysink@gmail.com, but no later than Wednesday the 16th.

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: 379 2456 or Janet Wilson, Donations Secretary janmwil507@gmail.com Ph: 338 7203.

The latest Knox Life is now available online and in hard copy



Matthew goes for a walk
Covid settings for worship
Church Council notes
Bronwyn Hayward's work
Books, films and television
Len reviews Matthew Fox
Lorraine's poem
Ken reflects on Autumn
Upcoming events

P	R	O	P	H	E	T	S	H	R	U	O	A	N
A	S	R	T	O	B	E	H	K	H	O	R	E	E
E	J	S	A	I	K	R	A	E	C	A	M	R	H
S	O	E	O	D	S	I	S	R	R	I	K	K	R
C	U	K	R	R	E	H	T	A	G	O	H	E	E
B	D	G	E	U	E	T	H	U	B	R	D	C	H
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E	G	O	U	R	I	A	I	O	H	R	O	E	O
F	A	R	K	N	R	O	L	S	E	I	X	O	M
S	R	R	L	B	A	A	K	E	S	T	O	S	D
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U	C	C	J	M	W	A	I	K	A	T	O	E	O
H	R	A	R	U	K	R	A	I	N	E	A	R	C

GATHER
 PHARISEES
 CHICKS
 SUPERHERO
 MOTHER HEN
 COST
 FOX
 WAIKATO
 UKRAINE
 JERUSALEM
 BROOD
 CHILDREN
 COURAGE
 JOEL KUMEROA
 PROPHETS
 HEROD
 RUSSIA



Foxes are medium-sized carnivores that are reasonably proficient diggers and perfectly capable of scaling a two metre (6 ft.) fence from a standing start; larger fences can be cleared with ease if handy props (bins, for example) are nearby to provide a boost. Foxes also have strong, sharp claws, allowing them to climb wire mesh with ease. Consequently, keeping foxes out of your garden altogether is not a simple or straightforward task (equivalent to trying to keep a cat out) and it is important to

understand this from the outset. Indeed, as Trevor Williams and Andrew Wilson put it, in their 2000 *Unearthing the Urban Fox* booklet:

“Let us state categorically that nothing you can do, short of building a fortress, will create a permanently fox free zone”



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13
- Luke 13: 1-9

Knox Directory

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Office hours:
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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