



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 20 March 2022



Bill Woodrow. *Listening to History*, 1995 (cast 2001). Bronze, 29.5 x 26.75 x 31 inches.

LISTENING FOR GOD IN HISTORY, LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER NOW

Lent 3

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, CALLED TO COMMENT ON DISASTER IN THE WORLD;

JESUS, QUESTIONING THE SEPARATION

OF THE BLESSED AND THE CURSED;

JESUS, CALLING US TO NURTURE AND FORGIVE ONE ANOTHER.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Fulda

William Gardiner (1770-1853)



1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife
we seek your voice, O Son of Man.
2. In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed
we catch the vision of your tears.
3. From tender childhood's helplessness,
from human grief and burdened toil,
from famished souls, from sorrow's stress
your heart has never known recoil.
4. The cup of water given for you
still holds the freshness of your grace;
yet long these multitudes to see
the sweet compassion of your face.
5. O Master, from the mountain side
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
and tread the city's streets again:
6. till all the world shall learn your love
and follow where your feet have trod,
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.

Franks Mason North (1850-1935) alt.

Prayer of Approach

It is no simple thing, O God of the busy world,
to sing of the crowded ways of life,
of the many voices crying for many things.

It is no simple thing
to sing of haunts of need
and thresholds of fear.

Much less simple again,
to bring all of that into a moment of worship.

IT IS MUCH LESS SIMPLE AGAIN.

It is no simple thing
to step in from those crowded ways
into a place and time
for considering the claims of love and grace
that we understand Christ wants for all the people.
LOVE AND GRACE FOR ALL THE PEOPLE.

Yet this is what now we do.
Still tangled in our news feeds,
still pricked provocatively
by the signs and slings of this moment in history,
we dare still to sing our praise
of the One we saw in Christ.
**CHRIST, AS HE REMEMBERS THOSE KILLED BY PONTIUS PILATE;
CHRIST, AS HE MOURNS THOSE KILLED IN THE TOWER COLLAPSE;
CHRIST, AS HE CALLS HIS OWN TO LOVE AND FORGIVE.**

This is no simple thing;
IT IS NO SIMPLE THING.

Silence

And yet, this is what we want:
**FOR OUR WORSHIP TO BE REAL
IN THE WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE.**

So, we need to confess.
For our world's pain and brokenness,
for our part in that,
whether it be by commission or omission,
whether it be by thought, word or deed,
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:

Help us, O God,
to read our history with intelligence and care,
that we may trace through it
the golden thread of your loving presence.

**HELP US, ALSO,
TO READ OUR CURRENT EVENTS
WITH AN OPENNESS TO YOUR CHALLENGING SPIRIT.**

Give us a deeper understanding
of our place within your purposes,
**THAT WE MIGHT SERVE YOU WELL
AND BLESS OUR NEIGHBOURS,
BOTH NEAR AND FAR.**

We pray this in the name and spirit of Jesus,
drawing on the words he taught 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: 1 Corinthians 10: 1-13

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

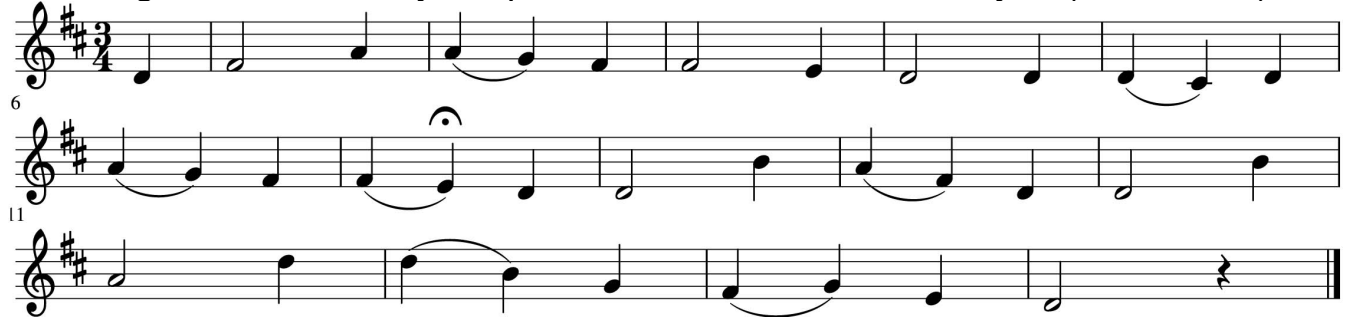
The Gospel Lesson: Luke 13: 1-9

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

Hymn:

Salzburg

melody adapted from Johann Michael Haydn (1737-1806)



1. O God of Bethel, by whose hand
your people still are fed,
who through this earthly pilgrimage
have our ancestors led:
2. our vows, our prayers, we now present
before your throne of grace;
God of our elders be the God
of their succeeding race.
3. Through each perplexing path of life
our wandering footsteps guide;
give us each day our daily bread,
and raiment fit provide.
4. O spread your covering wings around,
till all our wanderings cease,
and at the great Creator's throne
our souls arrive in peace.

Philip Doddridge (1702-1751) and others, alt.

Sermon: The misfortune of "those people over there"

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/53KxoTkqkwY>

Music for Reflection

Hymn:

Ellacombe

Mainz Gesangbuch, 1833



1. We limit not the truth of God
to our poor reach of mind,
by notions of our day and sect,
crude, partial and confined:
no, let a new and better hope
within our hearts be stirred:
*our God has yet more light and truth
to break forth from the Word.*
2. Our great ancestors groping went
the first steps of the way;
this was the dawning, yet to grow
into the perfect day.
And grow it shall,
our glorious sun
will brighter rays afford:
*our God has yet more light and truth
to break forth from the Word.*
3. God of unfolding wisdom, send
us increase from above;
enlarge, expand all living souls
to comprehend your love;
and make us all go on to know,
with nobler powers conferred,
*that you have yet more light and truth
to break forth from your Word.*

George Rawson (1807-1889), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Graeme Downie

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

If the love of God
is able to be made real
through the faith and service of ordinary people,
**THEN MAY WHAT WE OFFER,
AND WHAT OTHER PEOPLE IN OTHER PLACES OFFER
CONTRIBUTE TO GOD'S LOVE FINDING AND BLESSING
THOSE WHO ARE IN NEED.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus.
AMEN.

Notices

The Lenten Litany:

O Christ,
never content to allow the people
to distance themselves,
the blessed from the cursed,
the deserving from the not deserving,
you call us all to consider the unity of humanity
in the love of God.
Along the Lenten path,
LEAD US LORD JESUS.

O Christ,
you called your people
to withhold the execution of judgment,
and to allow for growth and repentance.
You call us to be people of forgiveness and grace.
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:

The Ash Grove

Welsh Folk Melody



1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the body of Christ from this dwelling take leave.
Our worship now ended. Oh, now be extended
the fruits of this service in all who believe.
The seed of God's teaching, receptive souls reaching,
shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God's grace did invite us, God's love shall unite us
to work for the gospel and answer the call.
2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
the tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring,
embracing God's children of each time and place.
With your love you feed us, with your light now lead us;
unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
give honour to Christ and His name that we bear.

Omer Westendorf (1916-1997), alt.

Benediction and Amen

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

Next Week: **27 March – 2 April 2022**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

PEACE STUDIES 2022 - Deferred until further notice.

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.

Of the sculpture on the front page of the order of service



blind to history, open/closed mindedness, and so on. Note the meticulous concern for detail in this work.

Bill Woodrow is one of the leading contemporary British sculptors. He often addresses issues of humour and irony with his work. In his early pieces, he combined found objects to create new meaning. In *Listening to History*, the placement of the head on the ground with the book tied against it and blinding the eyes suggests many possible narrative meanings: learning from history, being

NEW HISTORY CURRICULUM IN NZ SCHOOLS

excerpts from a Stuff article, 17 March 2022

From next year, every student in years one to 10 will learn about New Zealand's history. The new history curriculum would ensure every child learnt about topics of national importance, as well as topics with special connections to the students. Every school would be expected to teach about Te Tiriti, the ongoing development of New Zealand's national identity through immigration, and colonialism in the Pacific. There was also a major focus on teaching about students' own cultures, homes, and the land they live on. The new curriculum required that schools teach history from hapū and iwi in their regions, as well as investigating the stories of other cultures which have shaped local communities. The Government and Ministry of Education received feedback from historians, teachers and iwi about the new curriculum, drawing more than 4000 submissions. Ardern said there had been heated discussions about what to include in the curriculum. Education Minister Chris Hipkins said most of the feedback from educators was positive, but some public submissions revealed cultural tensions across society. "The feedback the ministry received was wide-ranging, clear and at times confronting. New Zealanders have a lot to say about how our nation's histories should be examined and discussed, and that is a good thing," he said.

The "Impossibly Virtuous" St. Irene of Chrysovalantou



One night a sister of the nunnery noticed St. Irene praying in the outer yard of the convent. Our venerable mother's feet were not touching the ground, but rather she was standing in the air about two yards above the ground! Near her there were two extremely tall cypress trees. So long as our glorious saint was praying, the two cypress trees bowed down to the ground, waiting for our venerable mother to finish her prayer. When finished with her prayer, St Irene touched the treetops and blessed them in the sign of the cross as they returned to their original position!

Then our venerable mother warned this nun along with all the others, that if they ever reported another miracle as long as she lived, that they would receive a very strict penance. The sisters saw countless other miraculous signs during our holy mother's life, but for fear of being chastised, they did not make them known to anyone.



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-19
- Luke 15: 20-32

Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave,
Ōtautahi Christchurch 8013
Secretaries: Jane and Lynda,
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
voicemail at home (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