



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 17 April 2022



Sandro Botticelli (1490)



Piero della Francesca (1465)

TRUTH AND HOPE

a service for Easter Day

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.

We are very pleased to welcome Alexandra Watson to the service to sing the hymns for us while we are refraining from congregational singing. Thank you Alexandra.

On Good Friday, we looked at four characters from the Passion story, each one creating a way of putting distance between themselves and the horror of what was happening to Jesus. The soldiers occupied themselves with rolling the dice and playing games. The religious authorities retreated into concerns about higher priorities: purity and solemnity. Pontius Pilate tried to wash his hands of responsibilities that were proper to his office. And Peter, Jesus' friend, denied that he had any connection to Jesus. They closed their eyes to the truth unfolding before them.



The Easter Service

This morning the Bible is already placed on the lectern, so will not be processed into the church. The service begins at 10:00am, with the congregation remaining seated, as the minister reads

The Easter Sentence: 1 John 1: 1-2

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life — this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us . . .

The Easter Narrative: Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared.

They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body.

While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again."

Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

The Easter Greeting:

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

The Lord is risen.

HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Hymn:

Easter Hymn

Melody from Lyra Davidica, 1708



1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!
2. Love's redeeming work is done;
fought the fight, the battle won,
vain the stone, the watch, the seal;
Christ has burst the gates of hell:
3. Lives again our glorious king;
where, O Death, is now your sting?
Once he died, the Saviour brave;
where's your victory, O grave?
4. Soar we now where Christ has led,
following our exalted Head;
made like Christ, like Christ we rise:
ours the cross, the grave, the skies.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

The Prayer of Adoration

On a Good Friday, O God,
as he carried his cross,
some people distracted themselves with silly games.
Some pretended other things were more important.
Some washed their hands
and others said they didn't even know him.
There was a great closing of the eyes to the truth.

But today the eyes are opened -
to the stone rolled away from the door,

to the space where the dead used to lie,
to the dazzling figures who point to somewhere else.
The human eye is opened to risen life,
to the truth that there is no condemnation now
for those who belong to Christ Jesus.

We lift our eyes to you, O God,
offering our prayer of thanks for the risen One,
rejoicing to use the words he gave us, together saying:

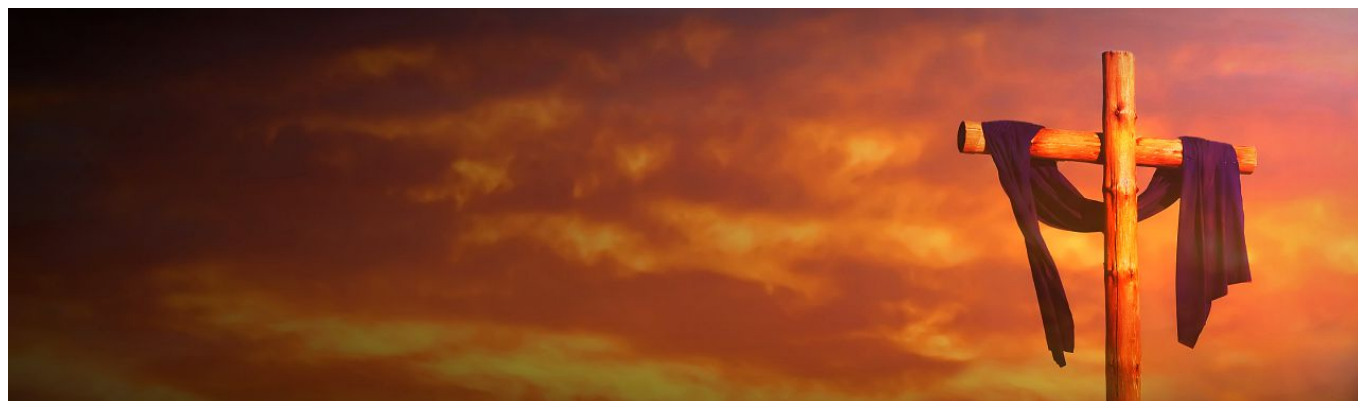
**OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN
HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,
YOUR KINGDOM COME,
YOUR WILL BE DONE,
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN.
GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD.
FORGIVE US OUR SINS
AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US.
SAVE US FROM THE TIME OF TRIAL
AND DELIVER US FROM EVIL.
FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY ARE YOURS
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.*



The Scripture Lesson:

Acts 10: 34-43

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

Music for Reflection:

This joyful Eastertide
George Ratcliffe Woodward (1848-1934)
Tune: Vruchten

The Easter Sermon

Most years, the Easter sermon is a response to the Good Friday reflection.

On Good Friday this year, the reflection was about the measures taken by those in the Passion story to create a distance between themselves and what was happening to Jesus (What is it to you? It's nothing to do with me). In the Ways of Distraction, there was an element of "self-defeating denial of the truth". Today's Easter sermon looks at resurrection as the joyful reclaiming of truth and the giving of hope. Truth and Hope.

A video of this sermon being practised has been uploaded to YouTube and the link will go live at 10:00am today. Go to: <https://youtu.be/yYV8pAj2B2s> The script is available at: <http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html>, and hard copies can be uplifted from the church foyer.

The Good Friday video can be found at: https://youtu.be/uPi_WCoFoTs

Hymn:

Blaenwern

William Penfro Rowlands (1860-1937)



1. Christ has risen while earth slumbers,
Christ has risen where hope died,
as he said and as he promised,
as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing;
let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumour –
Christ is risen, God is here!

2. Christ has risen for the people
whom he loved and died to save;
Christ has risen for the women
bringing flowers to grace his grave.
Christ has risen for disciples
huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation
is not silenced by the tomb.
3. Christ has risen, and for ever
lives to challenge, and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled,
all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen. Christ is present,
making us what he has been –
evidence of transformation
in which God is known and seen.

*John Bell (b. 1949)
and Graham Maule (b. 1958)*

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Stephen Best

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

We offer our eyes to the seeing of the truth.
We offer our ears to the hearing of God's good news.
We offer our hands to the doing of God's work.
We offer our voices to the telling of God's Easter praise.
**WE OFFER ALSO THIS MONEY AND FOOD
TO THE GOD WHO RAISES THE DEAD
AND GIVES LIFE TO THE WORLD.
AMEN.**

Notices

The Easter Litany:

For early morning,
GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

For the giving of truth and hope,
GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

For empty tombs,
GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

For glory and light,
GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

**FOR NEW BEGINNINGS,
FOR CHRIST ALIVE,
FOR EASTER LIFE
AND LIVING FAITH,
GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

Hear the praises of your Easter people
this Easter morning,
and every morning,
**THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD,
THE WAY, THE TRUTH, THE LIFE,
AMEN.**

Hymn:

Heartbeat

Jillian Bray (1939-2018)



1. Christ is alive, and the universe must celebrate,
and the stars and the suns shout on this Easter Day!
Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate
in a great Alleluia, a great Alleluia
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
2. Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity
to the music of God, God who has set us free!

You are the pulse of the new creation's energy;
with a great Alleluia, a great Alleluia,
we praise the power that made the stone roll away.

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

Benediction

Postlude: Sinfonia, from Cantata 29, "Wir danken dir, Gott"
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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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With a more modern resurrection artwork, Ed de Guzman, 2013



NOTICES

This Week:	17 April - 23 April 2022
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study
Next Week:	24 - 30 April 2022
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

Next Sunday

Next Sunday is the Sunday closest to ANZAC Day, so near the end of the service we will have a brief ANZAC Litany, including the saying of the Ode. We will affirm the tragedy of war and the importance of peace. We will remember those who have fallen, and continue to fall in war.



Knitted ANZAC Poppies

Available this morning.
Donations would be appreciated
and will be forwarded to the RSA

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.



Moderator's 2022 Easter message

PASSIONATELY HOPEFUL!

I lived in Christchurch through the Christchurch earthquakes. There was a lot to be despondent about. People were looking for signs of hope. The signs came in lots of different ways. One that really lifted

many people was the street art that sprung up on the sides of buildings. Another was the increasing numbers coming to church on a Sunday.

At Hope Presbyterian we decided on a mission statement which led with, 'Building Hope in a Broken World'. This seemed to strike a chord with people who were longing for meaning and hope in difficult times.

I was remembering this as I reflected on our most recent struggles. COVID weariness; an accelerating gap between rich and poor driven by out-of-control house prices; and now, our dismay at the brutal invasion of Ukraine! Where is the hope? How does it break in?

I like the glimpse of hope in the words of Leonard Cohen:

*"Ring the bells that still can ring / Forget your perfect offering / There is a crack, a crack in everything / That is how the light gets in."**

And so, easing of Covid restrictions, and peace talks in Ukraine that are edging towards cessation of war, these are signs of light shining through the cracks of despair.

To that, we Christians add a faithful voice drawing attention to the first cracks of dawning light at sunrise on the third day, which transformed the despair of the cross to something filled with hope.

This faith of ours - that the resurrection transforms the seeming despair of the cross into a world-changing victory of life over death, forgiveness over sin and good over evil - remains as powerful and relevant as ever!

As church bells ring out around our Church this Easter, may they toll a message of ultimate hope to a tired people in despairing times.

Right Rev Hamish Galloway

Moderator Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand

**Lyrics from 'Anthem' by Leonard Cohen from the album 'The Future', 1992.*



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 118: 19-24
- John 20: 19-28

Knox Directory

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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