



# KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 1 May 2022



## ACCORDING TO MATTHEW

a service based around three reflections  
prompted by Pete Majendie's "Matthew's Gospel" exhibition

While the evangelist Mark is often represented as an ox, Luke as a lion,  
and John as an eagle, Matthew is frequently represented as an angel.  
It's not unusual for Matthew to be presented in art as "listening for the angel".

## 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** - Since Daniel is away today, we're delighted to welcome Jeremy Woodside back to the organ bench. Welcome, Jeremy.

### The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, WHOSE LIFE INSPIRED OTHERS TO TELL GOD'S STORY;  
JESUS, WHOSE MERCY CALLS US TO CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER;  
JESUS, WHOSE WORDS ARE A CITY THAT CANNOT BE HID.**

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

**MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.**

### Hymn:

Marching

Martin Shaw (1875-1958)



1. Praise our God, the great creator,  
world evolving through God's might,

- darkness shattered by explosion,  
filled this world with life and light.
2. Great inventors splitting atoms  
energy and power extend,  
firing rockets, space exploring,  
search heav'n's light which has no end.
  3. King of kings beyond our vision,  
none could tell what he might be;  
in the great Creator's image  
Jesus came, and we can see.
  4. When he calls the brave will follow,  
dare to travel by his side,  
facing danger, find adventure,  
take his light to be their guide.
  5. Poet, artist and composer  
capture colour all ablaze,  
words of splendour tell the story,  
Light of all the world we praise.

*William Murray Bulman (b. 1927), alt.*

### **Prayer of Approach**

Into the mind of a writer, O Christ, you climbed -  
with all those things you did  
and the teachings you taught.

**LET US TELL THE STORY.**

Into the heart of a writer, O Spirit of God, you blew -  
with all that life and movement  
that gave life to others  
and raised rumours,  
though he'd died,  
of the Saviour's presence.

**LET US TELL THE STORY.**

Into the centre of the writer's community,  
great Creator, you come -  
with all that energy and grace you are,  
with all that identity and direction you give -

flaming the fire,  
moving the pen,  
stopping the pen to allow  
for humanity to write from below.

**LET US TELL THE STORY.**

You let down a ladder  
and broke up the boundaries;  
you took on the burdens,  
and shone a light to welcome the people in.

**LET US TELL THE STORY.**

Delighted to have been welcomed in,  
we take our place  
among the wider worship of the people of God,  
and keep our silent moment.

*Silence*

Welcomed in,  
we are confronted  
by what in our nature does not extend a welcome:  
the black and white we impose,  
the ladders we refuse to let down,  
the suspicion we have of tax collectors and sinners,  
and the burdens we lay upon those who are stumbling.

**LET US ADMIT OUR STORY,**

saying

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:**

God of the long human story  
whose ancient promises found wonderful fulfilment  
in the life of Jesus,  
his story is a flame  
set in our minds and hearts.



**MAY THE FLAME SPREAD THROUGH ALL WE ARE,  
AND WHAT WE HOPE FOR,  
THAT OUR LIVES MIGHT BE A LIGHT TO THE WORLD  
AND A LIFTING OF THE BURDEN  
FROM THE SHOULDERS OF OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
whose words we use, when 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.*

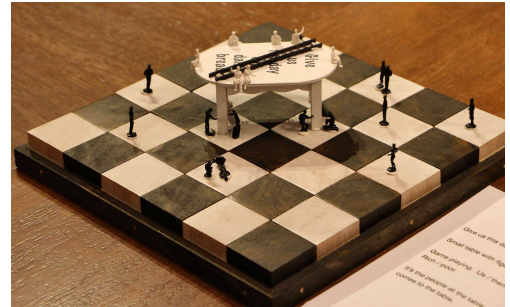
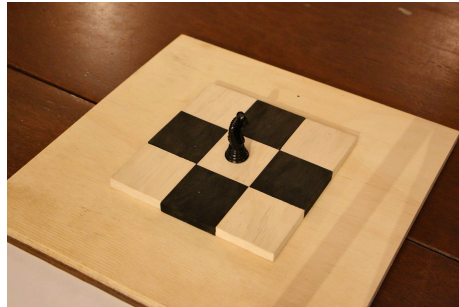
**A Word from the Artist:** Pete Majendie

## **A series of Readings, Reflections and Interludes**

**About Matthew's Gospel**

**Reading: Matthew 7: 7-11**

**A Reflection on  
the chess  
board works**



**Reading: Matthew 5: 3-10**

**Musical Interlude**

**Reading: Matthew 9: 9-13**

**A Reflection on the  
Bible Piano**



**Musical Interlude**

**Reading: Matthew 11: 28-30**

**A Reflection on  
"My yoke is easy  
and my burden is light"**



Generally, sermons and reflections 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. A video of these reflections being practised is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/8l-N22Zx3Ws>

### Hymn:

Castlewood

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)



1. Come to us, creative Spirit, in the Maker's house;  
every human talent hallow, hidden skills arouse,  
that within your earthly temple,  
wise and simple may rejoice.
2. Poet, painter, music-maker, all your treasures bring;  
crafter, actor, graceful dancer, make your offering;  
join your hands in celebration,  
let creation shout and sing!
3. Word of God eternal springing, fill our minds, we pray  
and in all artistic vision give integrity:  
may the flame within us burning  
kindle yearning day by day.
4. In all places and forever glory be expressed  
to the Christ, and the Creator, and the Spirit blessed:  
in our worship and our living,  
keep us striving for the best.

*David Mowbray (b. 1938)*

### Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*To the minister's words, " For the sake of growth, blessing and fruitfulness",  
you are invited to respond*

**"WE PRAY THE COMING OF THE CREATIVE SPIRIT "**

## The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

If there is a Christ of faith,  
**WE WOULD FOLLOW HIM.**

If there is a kingdom of heaven,  
**WE WOULD RESOURCE IT.**

If there is a challenge to live with faith and freedom,  
**WE WOULD SEIZE IT.**

We offer this food and money.  
**MAY IT BECOME A WORTHY SACRIFICE  
AND MOVE MERCY IN THE WORLD.**

Through the Jesus of whom Matthew wrote,  
**AMEN.**

## Notices

### Hymn:

Spiritus Vitae

Mary Jane Hammond (1878-1964)



1. O breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your church with life and power;  
O breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your church to meet this hour.
2. O wind of God, come bend us, break us,  
till humbly we confess our need;  
then in your tenderness remake us,  
revive, restore: for this we plead.
3. O breath of love, come breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive your church in every part.

4. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating  
while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,  
equip your church to spread the light.

*Elizabeth Ann Porter Head (1850-1936)*

## **Benediction**

**Postlude:** Passacaglia in D minor, BuxWV161  
Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

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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## **PEACE STUDIES 2022 - PROVISIONAL DATES -**

The post-service Peace Studies, postponed earlier this year, when it seemed unlikely that we would be able to find four consecutive Sundays not likely to be disturbed by Covid, are being rescheduled. While yet to be confirmed, if our community transmission figures trend down as expected, the new dates are likely to be 24 & 31 July and 7 & 14 August. The dates will be confirmed soon. On each seminar Sunday, we imagine gathering at 11:30am, working until soup and buns at 12:25pm, then recommencing at 12:45pm, finishing up at 1:30pm. Once all this is confirmed, we'll invite interested people to indicate willingness to provide buns and soup. Watch this space.





## NOTICES

**This Week: 1 – 7 May 2022**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 8 - 14 May 2022**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Sunday lunch 15 May** – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat after church at Urban Eatery (Oderings Garden Centre, Barrington). We meet at around 12pm. Don't forget to add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance or, send an email to [jannekenyuysink@gmail.com](mailto:jannekenyuysink@gmail.com). In order to confirm numbers, preferably no later than Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>, please.

### KNOX CAFÉ

Sunday 22 May at 7pm  
Knox Lounge

Speakers:

Maxine Pairama - "PILLARS"  
Daphne Marsden - "The Esther Project"

Bring your own nibbles and liquid refreshments –  
stea and coffee will be provided.

All are welcome to come listen to and interact with these fascinating women.

**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](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz) Ph: 379 2456 or Janet Wilson, Donations Secretary [janmwil507@gmail.com](mailto:janmwil507@gmail.com) Ph: 338 7203.**

## The Inspiration of St Matthew



Many artists painted their version of the "Inspiration of St Matthew" - Matthew writing his gospel. On the left is the one by Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio (1571 – 1610). Caravaggio's angel, with very sharp, precise edges (that are typical of Caravaggio's realist style) is in Matthew's line of sight, and counts on his fingers - as if there are precise details that must be included in the story. The angel comes from above. Is this a suggestion of heavenly authority for the text? Matthew certainly has a halo, so presents very much as someone with spiritual authority. On the right is the work of the slightly later Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn (1606 – 1669). His angel has no heavenly height, and in fact is on the same level as Matthew. He's not a "clear line of sight" figure, but one who comes from behind perhaps simply as a "voice whispering in the human ear". Indeed, Rembrandt's Matthew has a pondering expression on his face (hand stroking his beard) as if he's having to remember something or having to work out how to express what he feels he needs to say.

Of these two quite different presentations of an author being inspired, which one best represents how you think inspiration works? Is there a difference in the process of inspiration when it comes to the inspiration of ordinary literature, compared to the inspiration of "holy scripture"?



**The Bible readings for next week** will be selected from Matthew's Gospel once the minister has chosen three more artworks to reflect on.

## Knox Directory

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[www.knoxchurch.co.nz](http://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