



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 15 May 2022



Sing  
to the God  
who made you



## VOICES IN THE CHORUS - RECOVERING PSALM 148 -

## 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, GIVING HIS VOICE TO THE VOICE-LESS;**

**JESUS, PUTTING A NEW SONG IN THE MOUTH OF PRAISE;**

**JESUS, MAKING OF OUR LIVES A WORK OF LOVE AND UNITY.**

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

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

### **Hymn:**

Jerusalem

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)





1. Bring to our God a glad new song,  
children of grace extol your king;  
worship and praise to God belong -  
to instruments of music sing!  
Let those be warned who spurn God's name,  
nations and kings attend God's Word;  
God's justice shall bring tyrants shame:  
let every creature praise our God!
2. Praise God within these hallowed walls,  
praise God beneath the dome of heaven;  
by cymbals' sounds and trumpets' calls  
let praises fit for God be given:  
with strings and brass and wind rejoice -  
then, join God's praise with full accord  
all living things with breath and voice:  
let every creature praise our God!

*From Psalms 149 and 150,  
Michael Arnold Perry (1942-1996)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

For millennia, O God,  
the hills have stood,  
the seas have tossed,  
the clouds have moved  
their brush strokes across the sky.

**FOR YOU IT HAS BEEN  
A SONG OF PRAISE.**

For millennia, O God,  
the trees have grown,  
the fruit has fallen,  
the leaves have turned,  
the seeds have burst.

**TO YOU  
THEY HAVE GIVEN THEIR WORSHIP.**

For millennia, O God,  
the animals have raised their praise:  
they bark, they purr,  
they roar, they tweet,  
they rattle and scuttle,  
they neigh and they hiss.  
Goodness knows what the sea monsters do,  
because we have to admit we've never seen one.  
**EACH, OF ITS KIND, THOUGH,  
SPEAKS AS ONLY IT CAN.**

And, for millennia, O God,  
the people have sung,  
and rhymed and danced,  
and played and composed,  
and promised and kept.  
**JOINING CREATION'S PRAISE,  
WE HAVE UTTERED THE SACRED NAME.**

It is as if, O God,  
each part brings to the chorus  
something that it alone possesses.  
**FROM ITS AUTHENTICITY AND UNIQUENESS,  
LET EVERY CREATURE  
PRAISE OUR GOD.**

*Silence*

We confess, O God,  
that sometimes we do not delight  
in authenticity and uniqueness.  
The praise of the insect is ugly.  
The worship of the mouse is frightening.  
The hymn of the cow can wait  
until we've put the milk in the tanker.  
As for the praise of our brothers and sisters?  
We look at happy people enjoying food together,  
and see only "Eurasian fluff" and cleavage.  
**GONE FROM THE WORLD,  
AT OUR BEHEST,  
IS THE UNIVERSAL CHORUS.**

So 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:**

You gave, O God, to Peter the disciple of Jesus,  
a vision that at first he did not understand,  
but that eventually enabled him to live in love and peace  
with those he once despised.

You beguiled his imagination  
and bolstered his courage  
to ignore the prejudices of his age.  
**GIVE US OUR VERSION, O GOD,  
OF THAT SAME VISION,  
THAT WE MIGHT LEAP UP FREELY  
FROM OUR DEAD, OLD SUSPICION,  
TO A NEW LIFE  
OF RESPECT, UNITY AND LOVE.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
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:** Psalm 148

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

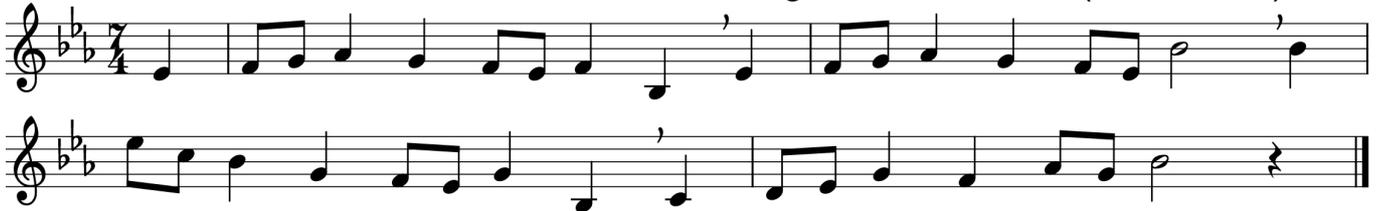
**The Second Lesson:** Acts 11: 1-18

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

### **Hymn:**

Sunset

George Gilbert Stocks (1877-1960)



- 1 Come, living God, when least expected,  
when minds are dull and hearts are cold,  
through sharpening word and warm affection  
revealing truths as yet untold.
- 2 Break from the tomb in which we hide you  
to speak again in startling ways;  
break through the words in which we bind you  
to resurrect our lifeless praise.
- 3 Come now, as once you came to Peter  
with thrice-told dreams that broke the mould

of stifled faith's old settled dogma,  
that, free in Christ, we might be bold.

- 4 So, let our minds be sharp to read you  
in sight or sound or printed page,  
and let us greet you in our neighbours,  
in ardent youth or mellow age.
- 5 Then, through our gloom, your Son will meet us  
as vivid truth and living Lord,  
exploding doubt and disillusion  
to scatter hope and joy abroad.

*vv 1,-2, 4-5, Alan Gaunt (b. 1935)  
v 3, Matthew Jack (b. 1963)*

**Sermon:** An unsettling vision and seminal moment

*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. A  
video of this sermon being practised is available from 10:00am today:  
<https://youtu.be/PKrE2W9odzM>*

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

**Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Graeme Downie*

**The Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

To the God who made all things,  
to the Christ whose body we are,  
to the Spirit who blows away the cobwebs and prejudices,  
we bring this offering.

**MAY GOD HALLOW WHAT WE BRING,  
AND NURTURE WHO WE ARE,  
THAT THE WORLD MIGHT BE BLESSED.  
AMEN.**

## Notices

### 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.*

## Benediction

**Postlude:** Prélude  
Gabriel Pierné (1863-1937)

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: 15 - 21 May 2022**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 22 - 28 May 2022**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
7.00pm Knox Café – **see below**  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

### **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 –  
tea and coffee will be provided.

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

### **ORGAN CONCERT**

**SATURDAY 2:00PM - MAY 21, 2022**

OXFORD TERRACE BAPTIST CHURCH - 286 Oxford Terrace

Concert in aid of the Church's social housing building project.

<https://otbc.org.nz/facilities-housing/stagetwo/>

Tickets: \$25 (purchased at the door on the day)

Jeremy Woodside (Wells Cathedral and Westminster Abbey)

Featuring music of: Walton, Bach, Duruflé  
and the NZ premiere of a new major work by David Bednall

# ANZAC Poppies

Good morning / evening,

I am the knitter of the ANZAC poppies and I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of you who donated to the RSA your hard earned cash in buying the poppies.

Not only were donations made from the Knox Congregation, but also from the various organisations who use the Knox complex, and from Durham Street Methodist Church and St Lukes.



We are donating a total of \$466.20 and Matthew and I will be giving the money to the RSA as soon as possible. Again, my grateful thanks to you all for your generosity.

Thank you.

Sheila Cuthbertson.

## From the Canterbury Palestinian Strategic Network

Today, Sunday 15 May, 12 noon at the Bridge of Remembrance, a Nakbar commemoration event to mark the expulsion in 1948 from the newly formed State of Israel, of approximately 750,000 Palestinians. The event will consist of a few short speeches, including one from Bishop Peter Carroll, Anglican Bishop of Christchurch, before an optional march down Cashel Mall and around the block.

**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 Bible readings for next week will be:

- Acts 16: 9-15
- Revelation 21:10 and 21:22-22:5

## Knox Directory

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Office hours:

Mon, Tues, Thurs - 9.00am-noon  
Wed, Friday - 10:00am - noon

Visit our website

[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