



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service 1 October 2023

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## Election Wilderness to Future Promise

## 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.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, you are welcome to use the language that is most natural to you.

Many thanks to Nicola Holt who is our soprano soloist this morning.

The peace of God be with you. **And also with you.**

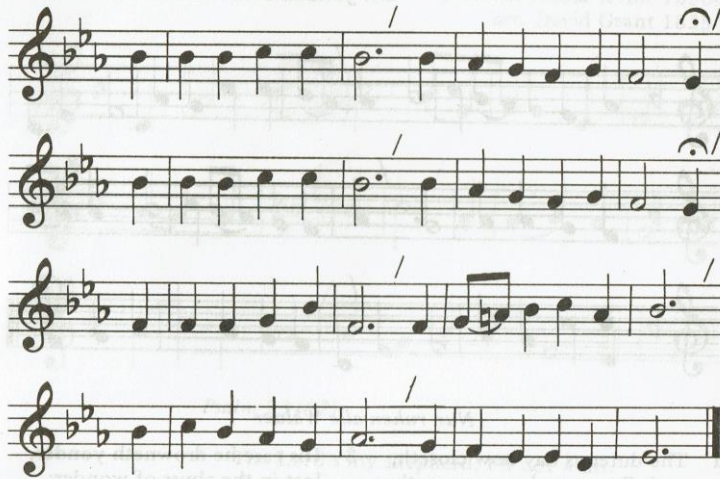
We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, a light in the world.

### **The Call to Worship:**

Frederick A. Styles *Worship For An Easter People* 'Volume 4' (Ontario: enThusia Enterprises 1990) p.1-26

NUN DANKET 67.67.66.66

Later form of melody  
by Johann Crüger 1598-1662



### **Hymn WOV 14 Now thank we all our God**

1. Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts, and hands, and voices;  
who wondrous things hath done,  
in whom his world rejoices;  
who, from our mothers' arms,  
hath blest us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever-joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and Holy Ghost,  
One Lord in highest heaven:  
the one, eternal God,  
whom earth and heaven adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart

## Praise and Adoration

The lengthening days and the appearance of spring flowers opens our mind to the wonder of creation.

**Spring inspires praise and gratitude for the gift of life in all its complex diversity and interdependence.**

We reflect on the swirling mass of the universe which is the very cauldron of creation.

**Eternity where the divine word brings all things into being giving, stability and peace within the chaos of ever-changing timelessness.**

In the image of a bush that burns without being consumed humanity is called out of the slavery our fears impose upon us. **Humanity has an ongoing journey to the promise of interdependent empathic communities.**

In our human frailty we are each called to new possibilities through the challenge of inspiration and spirit filled leadership that guides our living.

4

**Individuals are renewed as they recognise the divine within themselves through the image of Jesus Christ**

Christ who lived our life, shared our pain and died our death and even now walks beside us in our darkest moments.

**In Christ we have the possibility of renewal by offering ourselves for the healing of others.**

In caring for others we become the spring of living water that nourishes the soul and brings hope to those around us.

**Christ calls us all to be the touch of lovingkindness within this modern world of sterility and efficiency.**

Our call is to be the healing hope in the complex journey from birth to death. **For the world we are born into, the science that gives us understanding, the caring for others we are called to, and the healing and hope we give and receive, we give our heartfelt thanks and praise.**

## Lament

But life's journey has its moments of darkness and terror.

**Each of our lives has both beginning and end and our wondrous complex bodies cease to grow and begin to decline.**

In life's interdependency we are also nourishment for other beings both large and fearful or minutely small and deadly.

**Fear and pain that protects and warns us can also paralyse us in a slavery of imagination.**

There is always a reality of throbbing incapacity.

**The love that lifts us and gives us life also risks the pain of loss.**

## Words of Assurance

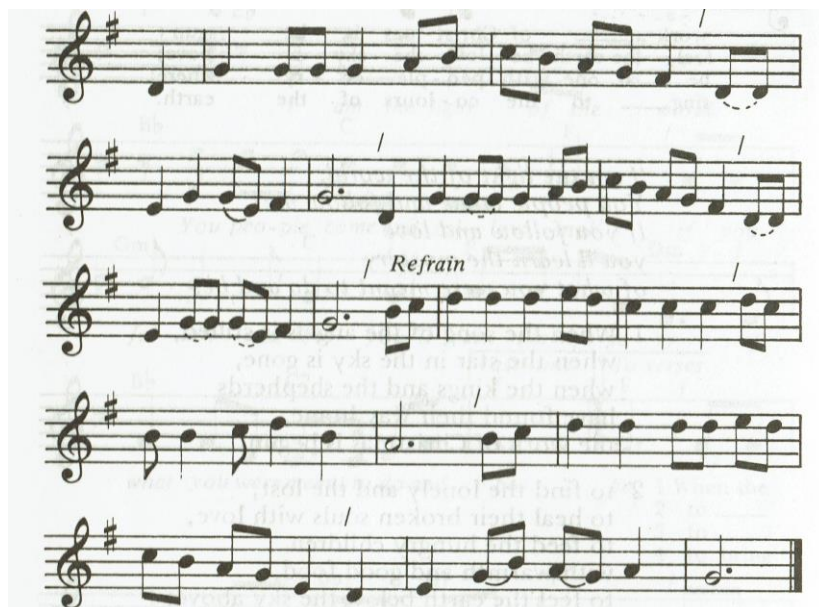
Yet in the image of a Christ who shares our pain and death,  
is the resurrection hope of love and life restored.  
Christ is the living spring of empathy and caring community.

**Thanks be to God**

## The Notices

The First Lesson:      **Exodus 17: 1-7**  
In this is the Word of God  
**THANKS BE TO GOD.**

The Gospel Lesson:    **Matthew 21:23-32**  
This is the gospel of Christ.  
**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**



## **WOV670 The Journey of life**

1. The journey of life may be easy, may be hard,  
there'll be dangers on the way;  
with Christ at my side I'll take courage as I ride  
'gainst the foe that would lead me astray.

*Will you ride, ride, ride with the King of kings,  
will you follow my leader true;  
will you shout hosanna! to the lowly Son of God,  
who died for me and you?*

2. My burden is light and a song is in my heart,  
as I travel on life's way,  
for Christ is my Lord, and he's given me his word  
that by my side he'll stay.
  
3. I'll follow my leader wherever he may go,  
for Jesus is my friend;  
he'll lead me on to the place where he has gone,  
when I come to my journey's end.

Valerie Collison

**Sermon:** Election Wilderness to Future Promise

*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.*

**Music for Reflection:** Bist du bei mir – J S Bach (1685-1750)

**Sung by:** Nicola Holt

**Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

O God who walks beside us in our darkest moments.....  
conclude by summing up all our prayers with the prayer we believe Jesus  
taught his disciples.

**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 forever. Amen.**

**The Offering and Dedication** We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

**The Passing of the Peace**  
The peace of Christ be with you all.  
**And also with you.**



*We exchange a sign of peace with one another.*

### **Communion Hymn:**

LOVE UNKNOWN  $\text{♩} = 66$

John Ireland

Now to your ta- ble spread we come, each one, in faith that  
you a- lone pro- vide the words of life and death: in  
wine and bread, in pro- mised food we find your lov- ing heart, O God.

### **AA100 Now to your table spread**

1. Now to your table spread  
we come, each one, in faith  
that you alone provide the words of life and death:  
in wine and bread,  
in promised food  
we find your loving heart, O God.
2. Hands of the world stretch out:  
your mystery to touch  
in longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,  
to sing in joy,  
to cry in grief,  
to know your meaning for our life.
3. Here is our common wealth  
in sharing what is good  
as though all humankind around one table stood,  
this bread to break,  
this wine to taste -  
one people in the name of Christ.

## Communion Liturgy

The gospels remind us that no matter how isolated we might feel.....  
.....we give thanks and join with the whole church throughout the world in the traditional prayer of wonder and gratitude.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of power and might  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

We remember from John's Gospel..... then all the sins, exploitation, and domination of the whole world would melt away.

## Distribution

The gifts of God for the people of God

**Music during Communion:** Ave Maria – Guilio Caccini (1551-1618)

**Sung by:** Nicola Holt

*For the distribution, please come forward to the table, receive some bread, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat. If you prefer gluten free bread, some is available on the plinth in front of the bread servers. Non-alcoholic grape juice can be taken from the trays held by the glass servers.*

## The Prayer After Communion

### Hymn:





## **WOV 672 Where the road runs out**

1. Where the road runs out and the signposts end,  
where we come to the edge of today,  
be the God of Abraham for us;  
send us out upon our way.

*Lord, you were our beginning,  
the faith that gave us birth.  
We look to you, our ending,  
our hope for heaven and earth.*

3. When the coast is left and we journey on  
to the rim of the sky and the sea,  
be the sailor's friend, be the dolphin Christ;  
lead us on to eternity.
4. When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,  
when tomorrow's storm draws near,  
be the spirit bird hov'ring overhead  
who will take away our fear.

Colin Gibson

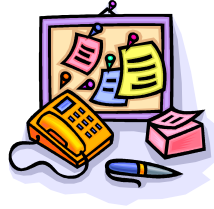
### **Commissioning and benediction with sung amen**

Frederick A. Styles *Worship For An Easter People* 'Volume 1' (Ontario: enThusia Enterprises 1975)pIV-4

**Postlude:** Trumpet Tune in A – David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

Following the service, morning tea and coffee are served in the church.

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## NOTICES

### **This Week: 1 October – 7 October**

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	5.00pm	Film Group – Operation Mincemeat
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

### **Next Week: 8 October – 14 October**

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

### **Sunday 1 October 5pm in the lounge - Film: Operation Mincemeat**

Set in World War 2, this film tells the incredible true story of how, in 1943, as the Allies were planning the invasion of Europe, an unlikely plan to conceal the place for the Allied landing was concocted and successfully carried out! Ian Fleming (yes, the later author of James Bond!), working in the basement of the British Ministry of Defence, dreamed up the plan to plant a decoy body on the coast of Spain.

This is not a "war film" but rather explores the relationship of the co-workers, the family of the deceased's body to be used as a decoy, and the task of convincing the higher powers that the improbable could work. It did! The film stars Colin Firth as Ian Fleming's boss.

### **Blessing of the Animals**

We'll be having our annual "Blessing of the Animals" service on Sunday 15 October. One of the regular features of this service is the playing of a slideshow of images of much loved pets who are no longer with us. If you have a photo to be included, please send it to Lynda in the office by Wednesday 11 October, and she will make sure it is included.

The date for the animal service was chosen (and publicised) before we fully realised that it was the day after the general election. Rest assured that we will pray for whatever government is elected on the 14th and focus more fully on that the following Sunday. In the MMP environment, it might take a while anyway before the details of the government are clear.

**Sunday lunch 15 Oct** – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat at the **Black and White Café, 45 Merrin St, Avonhead**. Meet at around 12pm. Please, make sure you add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance. Or send an email to [jannekenyuysink@gmail.com](mailto:jannekenyuysink@gmail.com) no later than Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **Board/Homestays Required**

If you are interested in Japanese culture and would like to host a Japanese student from 28 November until 17 December, please refer to the poster in the new foyer.

Jennifer Johnston is looking for board in a Christian home. Her contact details are:- Email: [quantumknowledge1111@gmail.com](mailto:quantumknowledge1111@gmail.com) or ph: 021 160 5912.

**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. For further information or options contact: [office@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz) Ph: 379 2456.**

### **October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

Approximately 3,500 women annually, are diagnosed with breast cancer. That means every 7 days, 9-10 women (approximately 1 in every 13) will be diagnosed with some form of breast cancer.

It is the third highest rating cancer in Aotearoa New Zealand and is no respecter of age. Each year, 25 men are diagnosed with breast cancer. The likelihood of having breast cancer for women in their 40s is 1 in 50 women and increases to 1 in 36 for those in their 70s.

Whilst we currently lag behind Australia in offering more free medications, Christchurch is really fortunate to have Canterbury Breastcare to walk women through the diagnostic stages of their journey. The Cancer Society does not receive any government funding and does an amazing job to advocate, educate and support women and their family/whanau/fono.

In the near future, the Cancer Society will be starting a new 'park and ride' service from their Papanui office to Christchurch Hospital and St George's Hospital.

Friday 28 October 2023 and Saturday 29 October 2023 are 'Pink Ribbon Day' during which members of the public have the opportunity to donate to the Cancer Society and receive a pink ribbon. Every few cents helps so please consider if you are to contribute should you see a donation box / person in a supermarket, mall or on a street. Perhaps you could volunteer two hours of time to help with the collection or, if really energetic, sign up for the 5 or 10km walk on Sunday 1 October 2023.



## The Bible readings for next week will be:

- TBA
- TBA

## Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave,  
Ōtautahi Christchurch 8013

Secretary: Lynda Gerken,  
ph. (03) 379 2456,  
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Office hours:  
Monday - Friday, 9.00am-noon

Visit our website  
[www.knoxchurch.co.nz](http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz)

Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack  
[minister@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:minister@knoxchurch.co.nz)  
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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,  
ph. (03) 338 7203

Organist: Jeremy Woodside,  
[jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com)



website



## 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