



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 19 November 2023



GOD GIVES THE 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.

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

The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, WHOSE WONDERFUL WORK TAPS US ON THE SHOULDER;
JESUS, INSPIRING US TO WORK FOR GRACE AND LOVE ON EARTH;
JESUS, PUTTING THE GLORY IN THE DAY, AND WAKING UP THE HEART.**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Laudes Domini

Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)



1. When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries
“may Jesus Christ be praised!”
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
2. To God, the word on high
the hosts of angels cry:
“may Jesus Christ be praised!”
Let mortals, too, upraise
their voice in hymns of praise:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
3. Let earth’s wide circle round
in joyful notes resound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air, and sea, and sky,
from depth to height, reply:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
4. Be this, when day is past,
of all my thoughts the last:
“may Jesus Christ be praised!”
The night becomes as day,
when from the heart we say
“may Jesus Christ be praised!”
5. Be this while life is mine,
my canticle divine,
“may Jesus Christ be praised!”
Be this the eternal song
through all the ages long:
“may Jesus Christ be praised!”

*Anon, German, early 19th cent
trans. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)*

Prayer of Approach

The 47th Sunday of the year.

36 days before Christmas.

24 hours that never were before, and ne'er again will come.

MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED.

For those who have gathered in God's house,
it is the confluence of all that has been,
the strands of stories that brought us here,
flowing into the unremarkable now,
touching the edge of we know not yet what.

MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED.

For those who have sung their morning hymn,
it may be a day
in which they know their song is heard,
their prayer has "moment",
their lives are touched by the Eternal One.

MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED.

In the silence,

MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED.

Silence

Maybe also
it will be a day when connections are made in prayer
between the things we have done or failed to do,
said or failed to say,
thought or failed to think,
and the state of the world.

**AND SHOULD IT BE A DAY OF THAT DISCOVERY,
MAY IT ALSO BE A DAY IN WHICH WE FIND GRACE
IN THE LOVING KINDNESS OF GOD,
NOT ONLY TO HEAR GOD'S WORD OF FORGIVENESS,
BUT TO RECEIVE GOD'S POWER TO AMEND OUR LIVES.**

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.

The Theme Prayer:

God of the hours, days and years,
through our conviction
that the work of Jesus is not yet completed,

we are burdened with an expectation
our tūpuna in faith have called "the Day of the Lord".

**HELP US NEVER TO VALUE THAT DAY
IN STRANGE WAYS
THAT DEVALUE THE GIFT OF THIS DAY.**

Rather, may all our days
be given to serving the One who brings light and life,
AND HELPING THE WORLD TOWARDS THE NEW CREATION.

We pray this in the name of Jesus,
who taught us to pray together, by 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.**

We exchange a sign of peace with one another.

The First Lesson:

Psalm 123

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

The Second Lesson:

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

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

Hymn:

Irish

From Collection of Hymns and Sacred Poems, Dublin, 1749



1. "Your kingdom come!" - on bended knee
the passing ages pray;
and faithful souls have yearned to see
on earth that kingdom's day.
2. But the slow watches of the night
not less to God belong;
and for the everlasting right
the silent stars are strong.
3. And lo! already on the hills
the flags of dawn appear;
gird up yourselves, you prophet souls,
proclaim the day is near:
4. The day in whose clear shining light
all wrong shall stand revealed,
when justice shall be throned with might,
and every hurt be healed:
5. When knowledge, hand in hand with peace,
shall walk the earth abroad, -
the day of perfect righteousness,
the promised day of God.

Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929)

Sermon: On my last day

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/zn-9-wkH7LM>

Music for Reflection

Hymn:

Bunessan

Gaelic melody



1. This day God gives me strength of high heaven, sun and moon shining, flame in my hearth, flashing of lightning, wind in its swiftness, deeps of the ocean, firmness of earth.
2. This day God sends me strength to sustain me, might to uphold me, wisdom as guide. Your eyes are watchful, your ears are listening, your lips are speaking, friend at my side.
3. God's way is my way, God's shield is round me, God's host defends me, saving from ill. Angels of heaven, drive from me always all that would harm me, stand by me still.
4. Rising, I thank you, mighty and strong One, king of creation, giver of rest, firmly confessing threeness of persons, oneness of Godhead, trinity blest.

James Quinn (1919-2010), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*To the minister's words "If today were a last day",
you are invited to respond*

**"MAY IT BE FILLED, WE PRAY,
WITH THE RIGHT THINGS".**

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Were we, through some doctrine of "the day of the Lord",
inclined to put off for another day,
the good we might do today,
**CALL US, O GOD,
TO LOVING SERVICE TODAY.**

Food for the table
TODAY.

Presents for the children
TODAY.

Encouragement for those who are rebuilding broken life
TODAY.

Bless this offering, O God,
**AND LET TODAY BE A DAY OF RIGHT THINGS,
TO THE FURTHERING OF THE WORK OF JESUS.
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Regent Square

Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)



1. Glory to our God, Creator,
glory be to Christ, our Sun,
glory be to God the Spirit,
great Redeemer, Three in One!
Glory, glory, glory, glory,
while eternal ages run.
2. Glory be to One who loved us,
came our loyalties to claim;
glory be to God who won us,
caught our spirits in the flame;
Glory, glory, glory, glory,
to the One whose love remains.

3. Glory be to God in this day,
with our current weal and woe;
glory be to God who calls us,
in whose name we've far to go.
Glory, glory, glory, glory,
to the God in Christ we know.

4. 'Glory, blessing, praise eternal!
thus the choir of angels sings;
'Honour, riches, power, dominion!
thus its praise creation brings;
Glory, glory, glory, glory,
from our hearts our worship springs!

*Horatius Bonar (1808-1889),
alt. Matthew Jack*

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Rigaudon
Andre Campra (1660-1744)

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

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In the Philippines, Wilson is now an enthusiastic gardener. He may have a hearing disability, but he does his best to encourage everyone to plant more fruit trees and tubers.

Typhoons and cyclones often cause damage on the coast where he lives.

Growing more food has given this retired sailor a new purpose and at the same time it helps families improve their livelihoods. Give **Fruit Trees** and help families prepare for climate change.



NOTICES

This Week: 19 November – 25 November
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
12.00pm Lunch at Black & White Café
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 26 November – 2 December
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Knox Life - Summer Edition - It's time to be thinking about the next publication of Knox Life which is due out in December. Let's make it a bumper edition! Thank you so much to all those who contributed to the June edition, our regular contributors of course, but also some new people. Remember this is our Christmas issue, so if you have any Christmas stories, photos or memories do please think about sharing them. Items please to Lynda in the office: office@knoxchurch.co.nz.

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 Ph: 379 2456.

 **CHRISTCHURCH
CITY CHOIR** ★ ★

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

2ND DECEMBER 7.30PM
CHRISTCHURCH TOWN HALL

The "Jesus laughing and loving" project was created by the Church of Scotland in 2004. By way of envelope, filing cabinet, and lost shuffled paper, the material came to Matthew, who's releasing the paintings and reflections one by one until the papers run out.

NUMBER THIRTEEN OF THIRTY FIVE

"Let the Children Come", by Masaru Horie, Kobe, Japan.



I executed this picture from Luke 18:15-17, which tells how Jesus spent a happy, loving time with children on the way to Jerusalem for the cross. This scene is the most lovely in the gospel. I made a great point of crystallising this scene during my teacher's life of 34 years. When the disciples saw infants being brought to Jesus, they rebuked their parents. But Jesus called the children to him, saying "Let the children come to me and do not hinder them. For to such belongs the Kingdom of God. I say to you, whoever does not receive the Kingdom of God like a child, shall not enter it". I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Lord that I have carried out the duties of the education of children for the love of Christ in the public and church school. I am the elderly over the age of 70, but I want to be an infant received into the Kingdom of God.



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 100
- Matthew 25: 31-46

Knox Directory

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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