



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 26 November 2023



THE REIGN OF CHRIST SHEEP, GOATS, LITTLE ONES AND A JUDGE

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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, PRESENT AMONG US, THOUGH WE KNOW NOT HOW;
JESUS, BROTHER TO THE LITTLEST AND LEAST;
JESUS, SHINING ONTO THE WORLD HIS TRUTH AND GRACE.**

Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.
MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

St Helen

George Clement Martin (1844-1916)



1. Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour;
first-begotten from the dead,
you alone, our strong defender,
lifting up your people's head:
alleluia, alleluia,
Christ, by whom our souls are fed.
2. Here our humble homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know you now:
alleluia, alleluia,
you are here, we ask not how.
3. Though the lowliest form doth veil you
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there thine angels hail you,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem;
alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.
4. Life-imparting heavenly manna
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship you, the Lamb who died,
alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925), alt.

Prayer of Approach

Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour,
whose feet kicked up the dust and Middle Eastern dirt,
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Great Judge of the nations,
unfailingly true and right
who were convicted as a criminal,
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Great mouthpiece for wisdom,
whose words were deep, rich and wonderful
yet fell on the ears of if not completely deaf,
then at least the slow to hear,
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Great Christ of God,
in whom are blessed
the two or three
who gather in your name,
ever present One
whom we often fail to see,
ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Life-imparting heavenly manna,
STRICKEN ROCK WITH STREAMING SIDE,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
WORSHIP YOU, THE CRUCIFIED,
alleluia, alleluia,
RISEN, ASCENDED, GLORIFIED!

Silence

Your people at worship
come this day, O Christ,
to the mystery of your continuing to come to us
in the little and lost ones,
the hungry and naked ones,
the thirsty and cold ones.

And because we know
that often we do not receive warmly or well
those for whom your heart aches with sorrowing love,
we are moved to 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.

The Theme Prayer:

May we never, O God,
need to ask in sorrow or surprise
"where did we see you?"
RATHER MAY WE DECLARE WITH JOY

**THAT ALL OUR DAYS
WERE LIVED IN YOUR PRESENCE,
AND THAT WE MET YOUR LOVE
IN THOSE WHO RECEIVED US
IN JESUS' NAME.**

For we pray it in that same name,
using the words he taught us,

**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 100

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

Knox Singers:

O for a closer walk with God
Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

The Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 25: 31-46

This is the gospel of Christ.
PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Hymn:

Londonderry Air

Irish traditional melody



1. Fold to your heart your sister and your brother:
where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;
to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.
For he whom Jesus loved has truly spoken:
the holier worship, which he deigns to bless
restores the lost, and binds the spirit broken,
and feeds the widow and the fatherless.
2. Follow with reverent steps the great example
of him whose holy work was doing good:
so shall the wide earth seem our Father's temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.
Then shall all shackles fall: the stormy clangour
of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease;
love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt.

Sermon: Who is this King?

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/3enXVsLGKNo>

Hymn:

Hanover

probably William Croft (1678-1727)



1. O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing the power and the love,
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendour, and girded with praise.
2. The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy power hath founded of old,
hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.
3. Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it descends to the plain,
and sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.
4. O measureless Might! ineffable love!
While angels delight to hymn thee above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

Robert Grant (1779-1838)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Len Pierce

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

We offer our capacity, O Christ,
to recognise you in the faces of others,
PRAYING THAT YOU WILL GROW IT.

We offer our willingness
to accept your concern for the little and least,
PRAYING THAT YOU WILL FILL IT WITH YOUR LOVE.

We offer this money and food,
**PRAYING THAT YOU WILL BLESS ITS USE
FOR THE FLOURISHING OF THE COMPASSION
THAT IS A SIGN OF YOUR KINGDOM COME.
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Warrington

Ralph Harrison (1748-1810)



1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. For him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of every tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose his chains:
the weary find eternal rest:
and all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honours to our King,
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the long amen.

Isaac Watts (1674-1748), alt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Paean

Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

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



NOTICES

This Week: 26 November – 2 December

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 3 December – 9 December

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
5.00pm Film Group – Miss Potter
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

CHRISTMAS BAKING 2023 - Packing of Christmas Baking will be on Saturday 2 December at 9am in the foyer of the Knox Centre. It is anticipated that the packing will be completed, certainly, by 10.30am and orders can be picked up then or collected from the Chapel on Sunday.

FILM GROUP - Sunday 3 December, 5pm in the lounge: Film (Miss Potter) Our last film for 2023 is **Miss Potter** (2007). This tells the story of Beatrix Potter, the events in her life and how she came to write Peter Rabbit and become one of the best children's writers. Her life had tragedy in it and fame was not instant. As well as showing her life with the family in London, we see the stunning countryside of her farm in the Lake District, which she bequeathed to the National Trust. You may have seen this film when it first came out but it is a classic and I am sure you will enjoy it just as much second time round.

SHARED LUNCH IN KNOX LOUNGE - I would like to start having a shared lunch in the Lounge, once a month, on the second Sunday of the month. It might work like this: Anyone is welcome to come. Bring a small plate of finger food to share, which could be sandwiches, muffins, biscuits or whatever you fancy. Leave food in the Lounge when you arrive for Church. After coffee/tea in the Church following the service, move to the Lounge for lunch. If you want to come, but haven't brought any food, just come along anyway, as it usually works like the 2 fish and 5 loaves in Luke's Gospel! The first event will be held on 14 January 2024. - Yvonne Barnes



HANDEL'S MESSIAH

2ND DECEMBER 7.30PM
CHRISTCHURCH TOWN HALL



You are invited to
**West Papua's National Day
"Morning Star" Flag Raising**

12 noon, Friday 1 December 2023
Bridge of Remembrance, Cashel Street West

Keynote speaker: Golriz Ghahraman MP

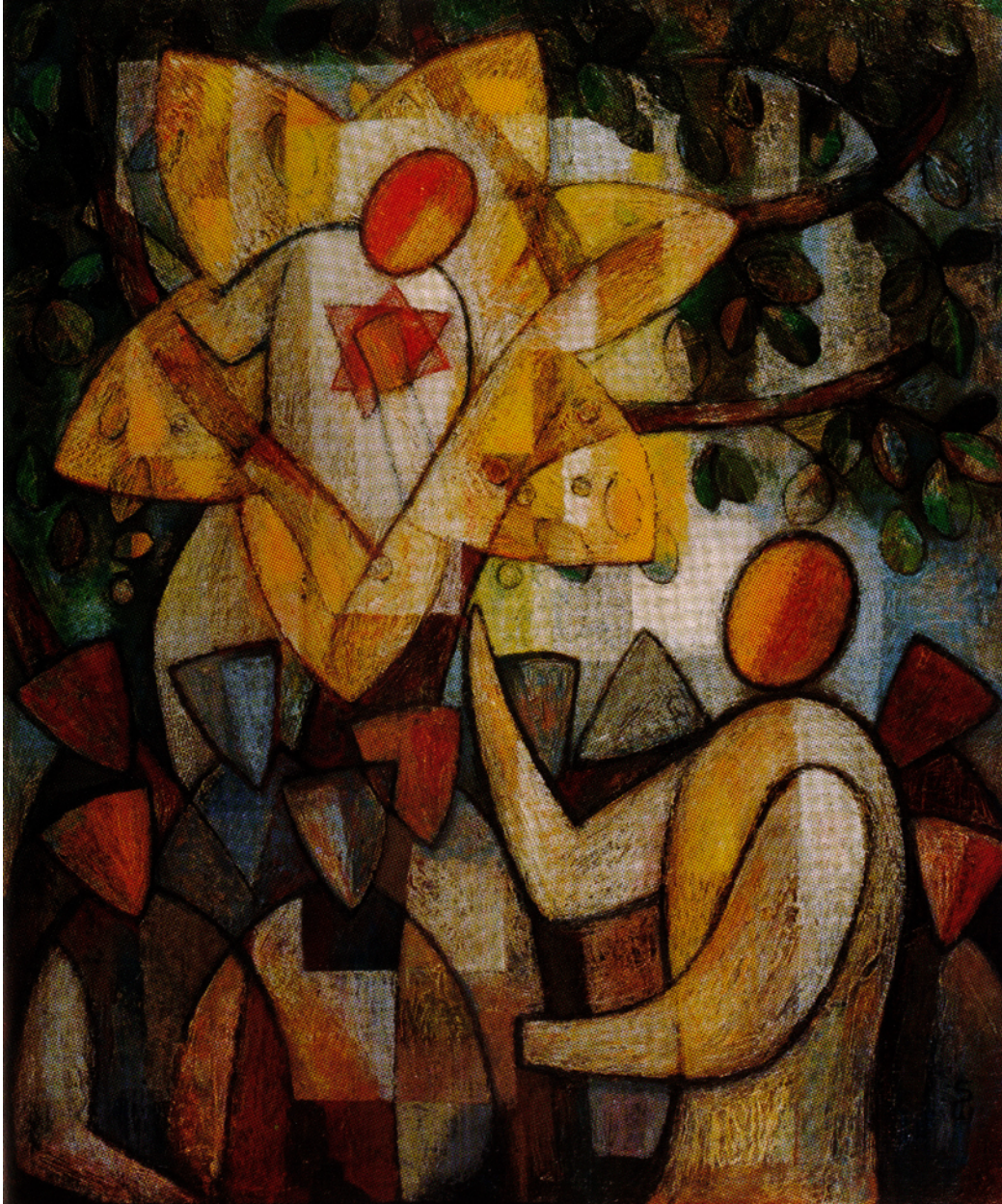
- Stand in solidarity with suffering West Papuans
 - Learn what you can do
 - An inter-agency occasion

Organised by: [West Papua Action – Canterbury](#)
Coordinator: Brian Turner - 021 129 4305 / bhturner41@gmail.com

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 FOURTEEN OF THIRTY FIVE

"Jesus and Zacchaeus", by Soichi Watanabe, Saitama, Japan.



Zacchaeus was a rich man in Jericho, but isolated and hated as a tool of the Roman Empire because he was a chief tax collector. A little man, he had to climb a sycamore tree to see Jesus as he entered Jericho. Jesus looked up, saw him and said with a smile: "Zacchaeus I must stay at your house today."

Zacchaeus was very happy because not only ha Jesus spoken directly to him in front of the crowd who so disliked him, but Jesus was coming to

his house for a meal. Jesus also really happy because this man had an immediate conversion, one that would have been financially painful - not many of us would give half our possessions to the poor as Zacchaeus did. I wanted to show his joy in the form of a flower and the colour yellow. n When I had been painting I found an echo of the joy between Jesus and Zacchaeus.

Characteristics of my work: semi-abstract, symbolic expressions and thickly painted oil colours.



The Bible reading for next week will be:

- Isaiah 64: 1-9

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