



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 10 March 2024



COVENANT WOBBLES LENT 4

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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.

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, WALKING WITH US THE PILGRIM'S ROAD;
JESUS, SIGNPOSTING GOD'S LOVE WHEN WE LOSE OUR WAY;
JESUS, WHO WHEN LIFTED UP, HEALS THE WORLD.**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Columbus

Colin Gibson (1933-2022)



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.*
2. 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.
Lord, you were our beginning . . .
3. When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,
when tomorrow's storm draws near,
be the spirit bird hovering overhead
who will take away our fear.
Lord, you were our beginning . . .

Colin Gibson (1933-2022)

Scripture Sentence:

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.
Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

Hebrews 11: 1-2

Prayer of Approach

Not knowing where they were being led,
the Covenant People
obeyed the command to leave behind
the slavery in Egypt.

IN FAITH THEY LEFT THE PAST.

Not knowing where they were going,
day by day they found food to eat,
a gift from God
for the feeding of the soul.

IN FAITH THEY LIVED EACH DAY.

Not knowing from whence came the misfortune,
they stumbled in a nest of snakes,
and dying, no more could they see God in the journey.

**ON THE EDGE OF TODAY
THE ROAD SEEMED TO RUN OUT,
THE SIGNPOSTS ENDED,
THE FEAR SET IN.**

Searching for what was unseen,
THEY CRIED OUT TO THEIR COVENANT GOD.

Perhaps we know this story well, O God.
Perhaps we know how it feels to lose confidence,
to fail in trust.

**PERHAPS WE WONDER SOMETIMES
ABOUT THE FATAL FRAGILITY OF FAITH.**

So, like the Covenant People of old, we confess:

**WE CONFESS THE FEAR
IN WHICH OUR HOPE IS PARALYZED;**

we confess our quickness to blame the other,
when the failing is with us.

**WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE DONE LESS THEN WE COULD HAVE
TO NURTURE OUR JOURNEY INTO WHAT IS YET NOT SEEN.**

As the road runs out and the signposts end,
as we teeter on the rim of the sea and the sky,
as we see the dolphin but not the Christ,
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.

The Theme Prayer:

Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,
even so must Christ be lifted up
for all the world to see,
and, in the seeing to be made whole.

**WE PRAY THAT THIS HOLY MYSTERY
MIGHT CAPTURE US, HEART AND MIND,
THAT WE MAY AGAIN WALK IN FAITH,
SERVE WITH LOVE,
AND BE RENEWED AS COVENANT PEOPLE.**

For we pray this in the name of Jesus,
who taught us to pray 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.**

We exchange a sign of peace with one another.

The First Lesson: Numbers 21: 4-9

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

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 2: 1-10

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

Hymn:

Mannheim

Friedrich Filitz (1804-1876), ad. Lowel Mason (1792-1872)



1. Lead us, O Creator, lead us
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,
for we have no help but thee;
yet possessing every blessing
if our God our Keeper be.
2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us;
all our weakness thou dost know;
thou didst tread this earth before us,
thou didst feel its keenest woe:
lone and dreary, faint and weary,
through the desert thou didst go.
3. Spirit of our God, descending,
fill our hearts with heavenly joy,
love with every passion blending,
pleasure that can never cloy:
thus provided, pardoned, guided,
nothing can our peace destroy.

James Edmeston (1791-1867), ad.

Sermon: Snakes on poles and people on crosses

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/tMFOYxovKEo>

Music for Reflection: Miserere

William Byrd (1543-1623)

Hymn:

Stuttgart

Melody attrib. Christian F. Witt (1660-1716)



1. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

2. Through the cross, Christ's love empowers us
worldliness and self deny;
by his Spirit it inspires us
him, through love, to glorify.
3. When the woes of life o'ertake us,
hopes deceive and fears annoy,
never shall the cross forsake us,
from it shines our peace and joy.
4. Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure,
by the cross are sanctified;
peace is there that knows no measure,
joys that through all time abide.
5. In the cross of Christ I glory,
towering o'er the wrecks of time;
all the light of sacred story
gathers round its head sublime.

John Bowring (1792-1872), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Norman Wilkins

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

You have given us the capacity to be productive in the world;
WE OFFER OUR PRODUCTIVITY.

You have given us the power to do good in the world;
WE OFFER OUR POWERS FOR GOOD.

You have put food on our tables, and money in our pockets;
SO WE OFFER THIS AS WELL.

Will you bless all that we give,
THAT IT MAY BLESS THE WORLD.
AMEN.

Notices

The Lenten Litany:

O Christ,
when your people fear the failing of God's faithfulness,
and all seems like snakes and confusion,
you lift yourself up high, such that your self-giving calms the people's fear.
Along the Lenten path,
LEAD US LORD JESUS.

O Christ,
when we fear that the covenant is done,
you find ways in your suffering and passion
to show us that faithfulness never ends.
Along the Lenten path,
LEAD US LORD JESUS.

God of love,
as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us,
so may we give ourselves to you,
living according to your will.
**KEEP OUR FEET FIRMLY IN THE WAY WHERE CHRIST LEADS US,
THIS LENT, AND ALL OUR DAYS. AMEN.**

Hymn:

Cwm Rhondda

John Hughes (1873-1932)



1. Guide me, O our great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty;
hold me with thy powerful hand:
bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore.
2. Open now the crystal fountain
whence the living waters flow;
let the fiery, cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through:
strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield.
3. When I tread the verge of Jordan
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs and praises,
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-1791)

Tr. Peter Williams (1722-1796) and William Williams

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Prelude and Fugue in C minor, BWV 549
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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



NOTICES

This Week: 10 March – 16 March

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Len's Study Group in Committee Room
	11.30am	Shared lunch in Lounge
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Next Week: 17 March – 23 March

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	12.00pm	Lunch at Black & White Café
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Study Book – there is a study book entitled “With Love to the World” going spare. See table in new foyer. If you would like to sample the goods that these bible reading notes offer, please take advantage of this one. Annual cost is \$52.00 to be paid to Knox’s bank account. Advise Trudy Heney or the office if you are interested.

Easter Day Breakfast – 31 March 2024

As we have done in other years, we will be celebrating Easter Day with breakfast on Sunday 31 March. Breakfast will be served from 8.30am – 9.15am in the Knox Lounge.

Breakfast - Fruit and Cereal: Scrambled Eggs and Bacon: Toast and Spread: Tea/Coffee. Cost - \$10 per person.

There are clipboards by both doors to be filled in by Sunday 24 March. We need to get an idea of numbers for food ordering but there will be enough food for extras.

Shared Lunch in Lounge at 11.30am. If you wish to come but had forgotten about it, just come along anyway. There is always enough to share. All welcome.

Len's Study Group - Now called "Shalom", meets today in the Committee Room at 11.30am-1pm. Douglas Shaw will be the presenter. **The midweek Lent services in the Chapel** - have been cancelled.

Sunday lunch 17 March – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat at the **Black and White Café, 45 Merrin St, Avonhead**. Meet at around 12pm. Please, add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance if you are planning to join us, or, send an email to jannekenyuysink@gmail.com no later than Wednesday 13th.

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.

Organ Recital

Jeremy is giving a recital at St Mary's Pro Cathedral, Manchester Street, on Wednesday 13 March at 1.10pm. Programmes are \$15. He will play music by Bach, NZ composer Tecwyn Evans, some gospel arrangements by Iain Farrington, and will be joined by James Burt to play a couple of dances for Saxophone and Organ by Antoine Auberson. James played the saxophone at the Nine Lessons and Carols last year.

CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHOIR

Come And Sing

Requiem by John Rutter

23 March 2024
Knox Church, Bealey Avenue
Conductor Dr. John Linker
Featuring Jeremy Woodside (Organ) and Nicola Holt (Soprano)

Christchurch City Choir welcomes all singers to join in the preparation and performance of Rutter's Requiem.
Register for the Workshop (10am-12noon, 1-2.30pm)
at info@citychoir.co.nz

Concert at 3pm
Tickets available through Humanitix, \$25 and \$15
or at the door (cash only please).

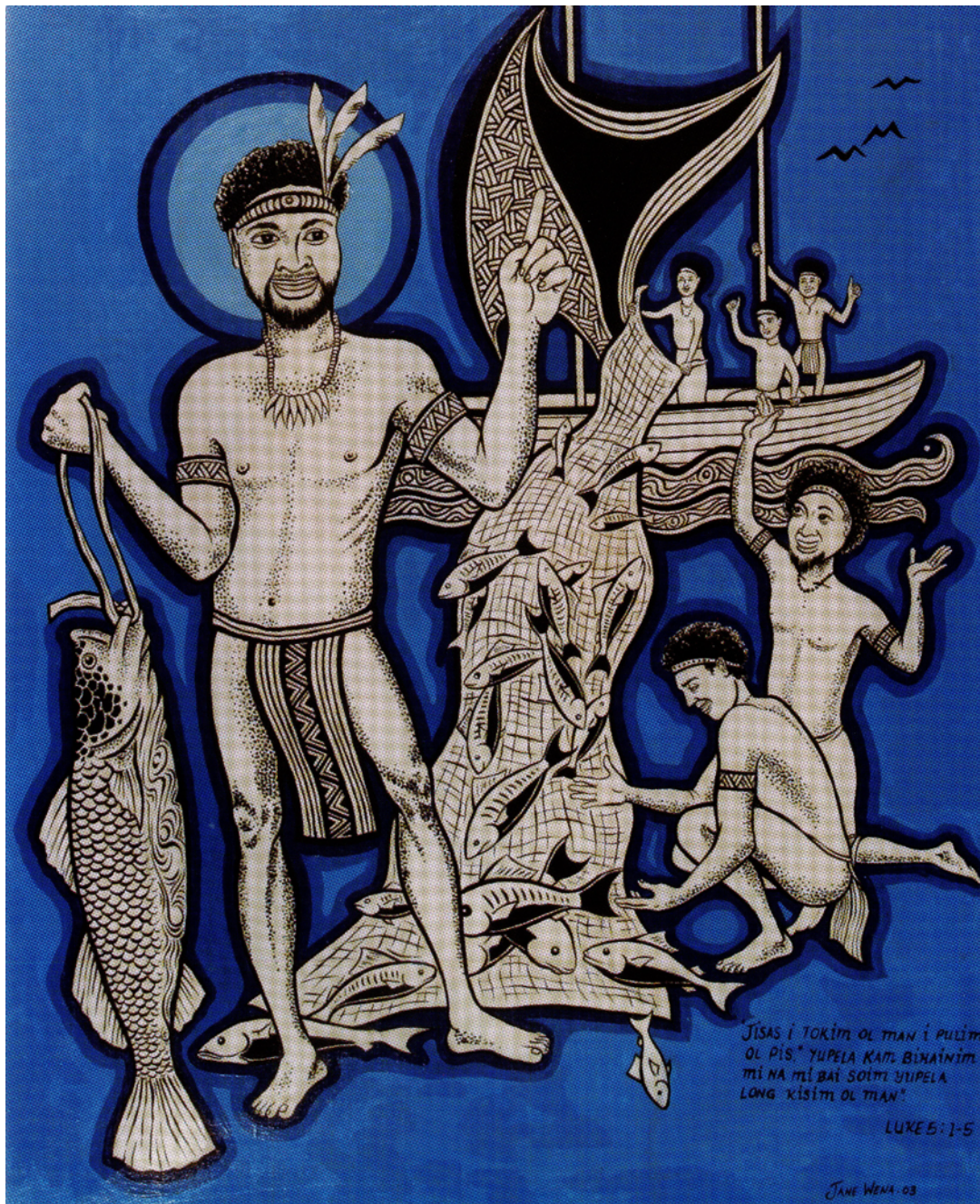
The "Jesus laughing and loving" project was created by the Church of Scotland in 2004. By way of envelope, filing cabinet, and lost shuffled paper, the material came to Matthew, who's releasing the paintings and reflections one by one until the papers run out.

NUMBER TWENTY SEVEN OF THIRTY FIVE

"Successful Fishing", by Jane Kama Wena, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

Fishing was important 2000 years ago as it is now in my country. Jesus knew a lot about fishing and he has caught a large barramundi fish, which is very good for eating. He will have a happy time sharing it with his friends.

Jesus is also the fisher of men and women for his kingdom, so he wants to look after us for both our spiritual and our physical needs.





The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Jeremiah 31: 31-34
- John 12: 20-33

Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave,
Ōtautahi Christchurch 8013

Secretary: Lynda Gerken,
ph. (03) 379 2456,
office@knoxchurch.co.nz

Office hours:
Monday - Friday, 9.00am-noon

Visit our website
<http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/>



Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack
minister@knoxchurch.co.nz
voicemail at home (03) 3570 111

Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
ph. (03) 338 7203

Organist: Jeremy Woodside
jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com

Pastoral Visitors:
Rev Norman and Linda Wilkins
<http://q8m8zinbayst@gmail.com>
+64 272499741 (Linda's mobile)
+64 220667626 (Norman's mobile)



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