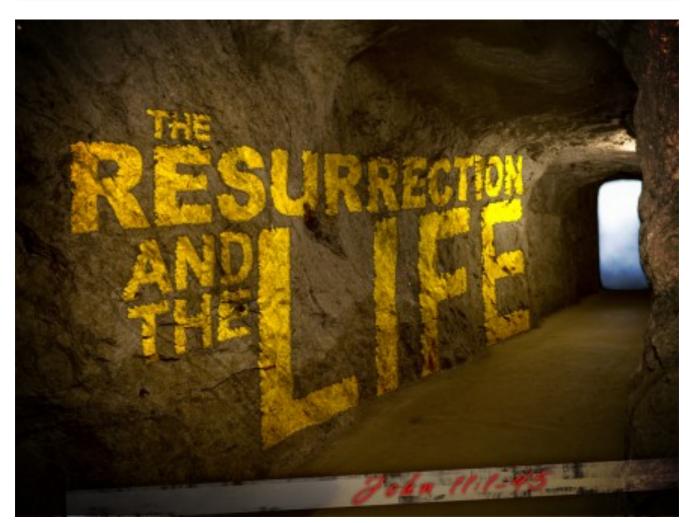




love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 31 March 2024



THE ETERNAL COVENANT

A COMMUNION SERVICE FOR EASTER DAY

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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.

This is a communion service. The table at Knox is an open one. Members of any church, as well as any who are seeking God sincerely, are welcome to receive communion here.

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.

At 10:00am The Easter Narrative

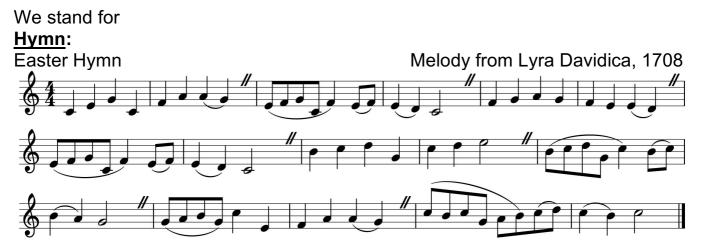
After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Matthew 28:1-10

The Easter Greeting:

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

The Lord is risen. HE IS RISEN INDEED!



- Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia! Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!
- Love's redeeming work is done; Alleluia, fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia! Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia! God has opened paradise; Alleluia!

We remain standing for **The Prayer of Adoration**

... So honour and glory, worship and wonder are yours, Christ-raising God, in whose celebration joyfully we sing:

We sing The Doxology:

> Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia, following our exalted Head; Alleluia! Made like Christ, like Christ we rise: Alleluia; ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

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.

We sit for The Notices	
Summary of Lent:	The Season of the Covenant
Anthem:	Most Glorious Lord of Life William Harris (1883-1973)
<u>Scripture Lesson</u> :	Romans 6: 3-11
	In this is the Word of God. THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Easter Sermon

Generally, sermons are posted on our website shortly after the service at: <u>http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html</u> 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: <u>https://youtu.be/41DFeY-7mrc</u>

During the singing of the hymn, you are invited to bring forward a flower (either one you have brought from your home or one from the basket provided) and place it on the Easter Cross. Sometimes in covenant life, where love has been pledged and defended, and where the errors made have been forgiven, it's good to respond by giving flowers.



- 2. Death's mightiest powers have done their worst, and Jesus hath his foes dispersed; let shouts of praise and joy outburst: *Alleluia!*
- 3. On the third morn he rose again glorious in majesty to reign; let us awake and join the strain: *Alleluia!*
- 4. He closed the frowning gates of hell; the bars from heaven's high portals fell; let hymns of praise his triumph tell: *Alleluia!*
- 5. Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee, from death's dread sting thy servants free, that we may live, and sing to thee, 'Alleluia!'

Latin, 17th Century, trans. Francis Pott (1832-1909), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

To the minister's words, "He is risen", *you are invited to respond,* "**HE IS RISEN INDEED!**"

... 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 Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation. Through your goodness, we have this money to offer, which we have earned using the talents that you have given us. It will further the work of your kingdom. **BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.** Blessed are you, O God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the bread of life. **BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.**

Blessed are you, O God of all creation. Through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us our spiritual drink. BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, AMEN.

Without announcement, we sing the **Communion Hymn**:



- The day of resurrection! earth, tell it out abroad; the passover of gladness, the passover of God. From death to life eternal, from earth up to the sky, our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
- Our hearts be pure from evil that we may see aright the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light; and listening to his accents may hear, so calm and plain, his own 'All hail' and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.
- Now let the heavens be joyful and earth her song begin, the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein;

let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend, for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

John of Damascus (c.675-749) trans: John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.

We sit for The telling of God's goodness, and the hallowing of human things

The Great Eucharistic Prayer:

May God be with you. **AND ALSO WITH YOU.** Lift up your hearts. **WE LIFT THEM TO GOD.** Let us give thanks to the world's creator. **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.** It is right, indeed . . .

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God:

Jesus, Bread of Heaven, HAVE MERCY ON US. Jesus, recreating your people where they stand, HAVE MERCY ON US. Jesus, foretaste of the new creation, GRANT US YOUR PEACE.

The Communion

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 non-alcoholic grape juice, please take communion from the server with the communion tray. If you prefer gluten free bread, please take it from the central plinth.

We stand for The Easter Litany:

For early morning, GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

For the giving of strength and song, **GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.**

For empty tombs, GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

For glory and light, GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

FOR NEW BEGINNINGS, FOR CHRIST ALIVE, FOR EASTER LIFE AND LIVING FAITH, GOD'S NAME BE PRAISED.

Hear the praises of your Easter people this Easter morning, and every morning, **THROUGH CHRIST OUR LORD**, **AMEN**.



- Christ is alive, and the universe must celebrate, and the stars and the suns shout on this Easter Day! Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate in a great Alleluia, a great Alleluia to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
- Here is our hope: in the mystery of suffering is the heartbeat of Love, Love that will not let go, Here is our hope, that in God we are not separate, and we sing alleluia, we sing alleluia to praise the power that made the stone roll away.
- 3. Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity

to the music of God, God who has set us free! You are the pulse of the new creation's energy; with a great Alleluia, a great Alleluia, we praise the power that made the stone roll away.

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Finale from Symphony no. 6 in G minor Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)

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



NOTICES

This Week:	31 March – 6 April	
Sunday Wednesday	10.00am Morning Worship 10.00am Bible Study	
Next Week:	7 April – 13 April	

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	04.00pm	Film Group – A Man called Otto
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

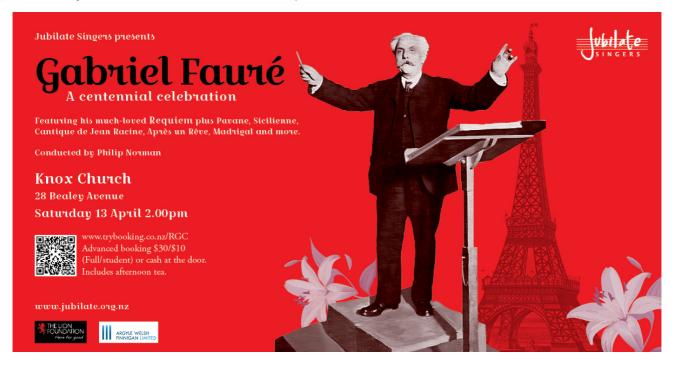
Study Book – there is a study book entitled "With Love to the World" going spare. See table in new foyer. If you would like to sample the goods that these bible reading notes offer, please take advantage of this one. Annual cost is \$52.00 to be paid to Knox's bank account. Advise Trudy Heney or the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

Sunday 7 April 4pm: A Man Called Otto (2022). Tom Hanks stars as "The grumpiest man in the world". This film is based on the Swedish film 'A Man Called Ove' and tells the story of Otto Anderson, a grumpy widower set in his ways. When a family with young children moves in next door, his world is turned upside down. Marisol, the family's wife and mother, sweeps into his life and gradually he is transformed.

Public Questions Group: Having decided that we would like to attend to at least one local and one national issue this year, the group will meet after church on Sunday 5 May to choose a couple of issues. We'll meet in the chapel at around 11:20am. Before the meeting, Matthew will re-circulate the "focus" material sent out on 22 February.

Treaty Principles: Carwyn Jones, a respected practitioner in the field of Treaty law, has written a paper on Treaty Principles and how a referendum on them might work in Aotearoa New Zealand. A few hard copies of the paper have been printed and are on a table down the back of the church. You might care to take one.

Living Wage: Nathaniel Herz-Edinger, from the Living Wage movement, is coming to Knox on Sunday 26 May. After the service, he will speak about a new initiative to engage school communities about support staff who work at schools (cleaners, care-takers and so on). If you have grandchildren who benefit from usually invisible work done at schools by such workers, Nathaniel would be keen to talk to you. We'll meet in the chapel at around 11:20am.



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: <u>office@knoxchurch.co.nz</u> ph: 379 2456.

THANK YOU

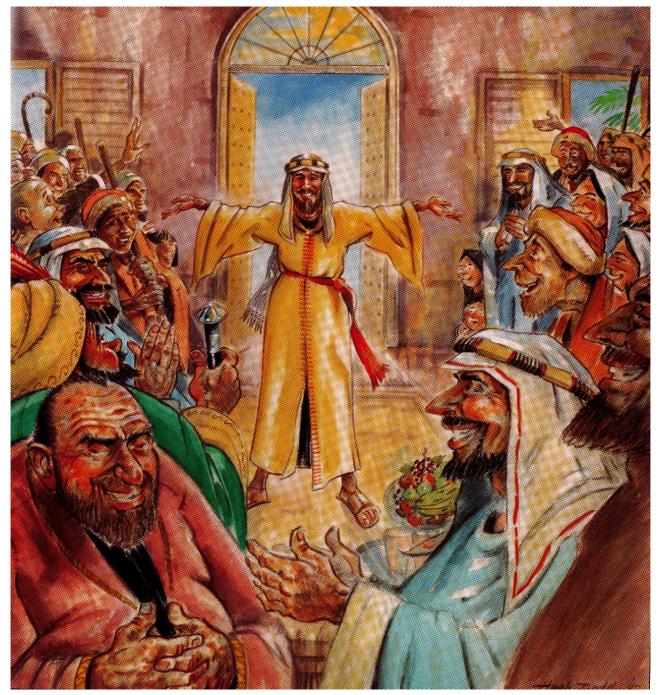
Thank you to those who have done lots of work behind the scenes to make the Holy Week and Easter services work so well - the musicians, the door duty teams, the breakfast cooks and servers, the readers and communion servers. And a special thanks to Rochelle, who has provided the stunning sanctuary displays.



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 THIRTY OF THIRTY FIVE

"Joking Jesus", by Hugh Dodd, Edinburgh, Scotland.



As a keen member of St Giles Cathedral in Edinburgh, see Jesus as being as much as a party man as a party leader.

I have always seen him as a man I would like to have a drink with - which is not a feeling I always have about some of his clerical representatives!

Knox Directory

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

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Pastoral Visitors: Rev Norman and Linda Wilkins http://g8m8zinbayst@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