



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

21 April 2024



STRONG DEFENDER

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, STRONG, FAITHFUL AND TRUE;

JESUS, STANDING HIS GROUND FOR LOVE OF THE PEOPLE;

JESUS, DYING, YET RISING TO LIFE ETERNAL.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Dam Busters March

Eric Coates (1886-1958)



1. God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble;
and we therefore will not fear
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

2. There is a flowing river,
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her -
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at God's presence -
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

3. Come, see the power of our maker,
revealed in Jesus' courage:
wars will cease across the world
when is shattered the spear!
Be still and know your Creator,
uplifted in the nations -
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

*From Psalm 46,
Richard Bewes (b. 1934), alt.*

Prayer of Approach

What's with the sabre-rattling, O God?
This pressing momentum in the music,
these words of mountains shaking
AND FLOODS A-SWIRLING?

What with this spear-a-shattering
AND SWIFT COMING OF HELP?

What with this thrones-a-vanishing
AND THE STANDING FIRM OF THE CITY?

It sounds a bit like attack and defence,
LIKE THE WOLF BEING CHASED FROM THE DOOR.

Why ever would we sing of a God who is a strength and refuge,
A LORD OF HOSTS WHO'S WITH US EVERMORE?

Maybe it's because we know something of the ways of the world,
the scattering of the sheep.

**MAYBE WE KNOW TOO WELL
THE EATING UP OF THE PEOPLE,
AND THE STABBING OF THE NECK.**

Maybe we know the damage being done
**AND HAVE HEARD OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD WHO CARES
AND NEVER TURNS IN FEAR.**

We come this day to reflect on what Jesus said about being our shepherd,
standing firm for the defence of the sheep.

**WE COME TO PONDER
THE LOVE AND BRAVERY
WE HAVE SEEN IN CHRIST.**

So bless us, even now,
as we prepare our hearts in the silence.

Silence

We confess that while sometimes we can see threats
to love and welfare,
often we do no defending.

Sometimes we are aware of the big teeth on the wolf,
but often we leave the sheep to take care of themselves,
so evil and destruction do their work undeterred.

In the light of the vision of the Good Shepherd,
who lays down his life for others, 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:

O God, through the image of Jesus the Good Shepherd
who lays down his life for the defense of the sheep,
you have called us to consider our responsibility
to treasure and protect what is precious.

**BE THE CLARITY IN OUR SEEING WHAT IS VULNERABLE
THE BRAVERY IN OUR HEARTS,
AND THE STEEL IN OUR STANDING AGAINST THE WOLF.**

For we pray this in the name of the Good Shepherd,
using the words he gave us.

**E TO MATOU MATUA I TE RANGI,
KIA TAPU TOU INGOA.
KIA TAE MAI TOU RANGATIRATANGA.
KIA MEATIA TAU E PAI AI
KI RUNGA KI TE WHENUA
KIA RITE ANO KI TO TE RANGI.
HOMAI KI A MATOU AIANEI
HE TARO MA MATOU MO TENEI RA.
MURUA A MATOU HARA,
ME MATOU HOKI E MURU NEI
I O TE HUNGA E HARA ANA KI A MATOU.
AUA HOKI MATOU E KAWEA KIA WHAKAWAIA;
ENGARI WHAKAORANGIA MATOU I TE KINO:
NOU HOKI TE RANGATIRATANGA,
TE KAHA, ME TE KORORIA,
AKE AKE AKE.
AMINE.**

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: 1 John 3: 16-24

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

Knox Singers: Lift up your heads
John Marsh

The Gospel Lesson: John 10: 11-18

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

Hymn:

Dominus Regit Me

John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)



1. Such perfect love my Shepherd shows,
whose goodness fails me never,
whose hand all things I need bestows
and watches me forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow,
my loving Shepherd leads me,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food from heaven feeds me.
3. When vain and foolish off I strayed,
you, faithful Shepherd, sought me,
and on your shoulder gently laid,
then home rejoicing brought me.
4. I do not fear death's shadowed vale
when you are here beside me;
your rod and staff and strength prevail
to comfort and to guide me.
5. You spread a table in my sight,
your gifts of grace bestowing;
and from your chalice I delight
to taste your mercy flowing.
6. And so through all the length of days
your goodness fails me never;
good Shepherd, may I sing your praise
within your house forever.

*Henry Williams Baker (1821-1877), alt.
based on Psalm 23*

Sermon: A shepherd cares

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/BTwhzNQTlo>

Hymn:

Servant Song

Richard Gillard (b. 1953)



1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I might have the grace to
let you be my servant too.
2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are trav'lers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.
3. I will hold the Christ light for you
in the night time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.
4. I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow
'till we've seen this journey through.
5. When we sing to God in heaven
we shall find such harmony
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.
6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you.
Pray that I might have the grace to
let you be my servant too.

Richard Gillard (b. 1953)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Lesley Hunt

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Open our eyes, O God, that we might see the Shepherd at work.

GIRD OUR HEARTS, THAT WE MIGHT JOIN IN THE TASK.

Teach us properly to own the things for which we are responsible,

AND TO BE BRAVE IN DEFENDING WHAT IS GOOD AND TRUE.

Bless also the offering we bring,

THAT IT MIGHT FEED THE SHEEP,

FEND OFF THE WOLF, AND BE LOVE IN ACTION,

through Jesus, the Good Shepherd,

AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:

St Magnus

probably by Jeremiah Clarke (c.1673-1707)



1. The head that once was crowned with thorns
is crowned with glory now;
a royal diadem adorns
the mighty Victor's brow.
2. The highest place that heav'n affords
is his, is his by right,
the Name of names and risen One,
and heav'n's eternal Light:
3. The joy of all who dwell above,
the joy of all below,
to whom he manifests his love,
and grants his name to know.
4. To them the cross, with all its shame,
with all its grace, is giv'n;
their name an everlasting name,
their joy the joy of heav'n.
5. They suffer with the Lord below,
they reign with him above;
their profit and their joy to know
the myst'ry of his love.
6. The cross he bore is life and health,
though shame and death to him;
his people's hope, his people's wealth,
their everlasting theme.

Thomas Kelly (1769-1855)

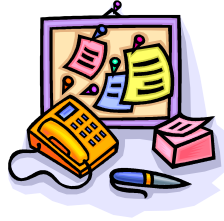
Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Postlude

William Mathias (1934-1992)

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 21 April – 27 April

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

Next Week: 28 April – 4 May

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
11.30am Len's study group (Shalom) in Committee Room
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Film Group - Sunday 5 May 4pm: Green Book (2019) - This Oscar winning film is inspired by a true story. In 1962 the African American pianist Don Shirley made a concert tour of the Deep South, USA. His driver and bodyguard was an Italian American Frank Vallielonga. They had to rely on the "Green Book" which listed the establishments where black people could safely stay in the highly segregated southern states. Through racism, danger, humour and humanity they formed a deep friendship. There will be no film in June. Thank you Rose for your excellent help as projectionist, and our best wishes for your return to the United States.

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.



Knitted ANZAC Poppies

Available this morning.

Donations would be appreciated
and will be forwarded to the RSA

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.

Baroque Music Community And Educational Trust Of New Zealand presents

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME 2024

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

With commentary of Mark Chirnside.
Taking you back in time and to different
venues around Christchurch.

Back to Baroque "Candlelight Baroque"

Monday 6th May 7pm | Knox Church

Vivaldi Recorder Concerto in C major RV 443

and other hidden gems of baroque music in cooperation with
Music Performance Department University of Canterbury

Solo Recorder – Luka Reardon

Violin – Mark Menzies | Cello – Tomas Hurnik
University of Canterbury students' ensemble

Back to Classic

Monday 29th July 7pm

Oxford Terrace Baptist Church

String Trios (on period instruments)

Mozart Divertimento KV 563

and other hidden gems of classical music

Violin – Mark Menzies

Cello – Tomas Hurnik | Viola – Henry Nicholson

Back to Romantic

Monday 9th December 7pm

Oxford Terrace Baptist Church

String Quartets: Dvořák "American" string quartet

and other hidden gems of romantic music

Violin I – Mark Menzies | Violin II – Rakuto Kurano

Viola – Henry Nicholson | Cello – Tomas Hurnik



Tickets online | Cash sale at the door | Each concert:
Adult \$30 | Senior \$20 | Student \$10 | Child \$5

Information and online tickets at
www.baroquemusic.co.nz

 The Beautiful World
of Baroque Music

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 ONE OF THIRTY FIVE

"Smile with Jesus", by Robert Fairley, Glen Uig, Scotland.



My picture of Jesus laughing is in face a picture of myself. I believe that the notion of painting oneself as Jesus is according to Biblical teaching - after all, if we are all made in God's image, why not? This positioning was also practised by many of the great masters painting in their own image as that of Christ.

When I had finished this painting I showed it to one of my classes and asked for comment. An eight year old student said: "Something's missing - but I can fix it!" He picked up a blue crayon and wrote "smile" in an arc over the top. My moment of panic at the prospect of seeing three weeks' work ruined turned into relief, then pleasure that the child understood.



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Acts 8: 26-40
- John 15: 1-8

Knox Directory

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Organist: Jeremy Woodside
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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