



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

18 August 2024



**I'D LIKE TO BE WISE
PLEASE**

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, WISE BEYOND HIS EARTHLY YEARS;
JESUS, LIVING AND DYING FOR THE PEOPLE;
JESUS, OUR VISION, WISDOM AND WEALTH.**

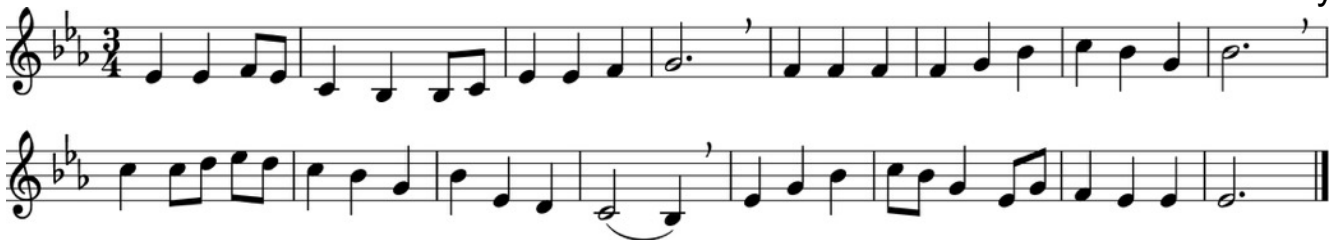
Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Slane

Irish traditional melody



1. Be now my vision, O God of my heart,
nothing surpasses the love you impart -
you my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.
2. Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me;
now and forever your child I will be.
3. Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you my inheritance, now and always:
you and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.
4. Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Irish hymn dating from c. 8th cent

Translated: Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931)

Versified: Eleanor Henrietta Hull (1860-1935), adapt.

Prayer of Approach

The people seek vision, O God,
to see the world more clearly,
to map the way ahead,
to understand more deeply who we are
and what we are called to do.

GOD, BE OUR VISION.

The people seek true wealth, O God,
treasure that is not moth food, nor fluffy fancy,
nor that which is bad for us,
but something solid and good.

GOD, BE OUR RICHES.

The people seek wisdom, O God,
to know good from evil,
to sift truth from falsehood,
to rise to our calling to be people
who bear the image of the One who is wise.

GOD, BE OUR WISDOM.

Silence

As we engage, O God,
with the story of Solomon,
as he asks for, above all things, wisdom,
we will notice you smiling upon his heart.
Eventually we will pray for all who, like Solomon,
hold responsible positions in our world.
But before then,
we pause a moment
to lament what lack of wisdom has done in our world:

**THE CRUEL DESPOTS,
THE MAD GENERALS,
THE ABSOLUTE CORRUPTION
OF ABSOLUTE POWER.**

For the damage it does,
and for our part in supporting the culture
in which it grows,
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:

It has been said by your prophets and poets, O God,
"Wisdom cries out in the street;
in the squares she raises her voice.
At the busiest corner she cries out;
at the entrance of the city gates she speaks."

**OPEN OUR EARS, WISE AND PATIENT ONE,
THAT WE MIGHT GROWN IN WISDOM,
AND SERVE YOU WELL.**

For we pray this in the name of Jesus,
who taught us to pray, together saying:

**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.**

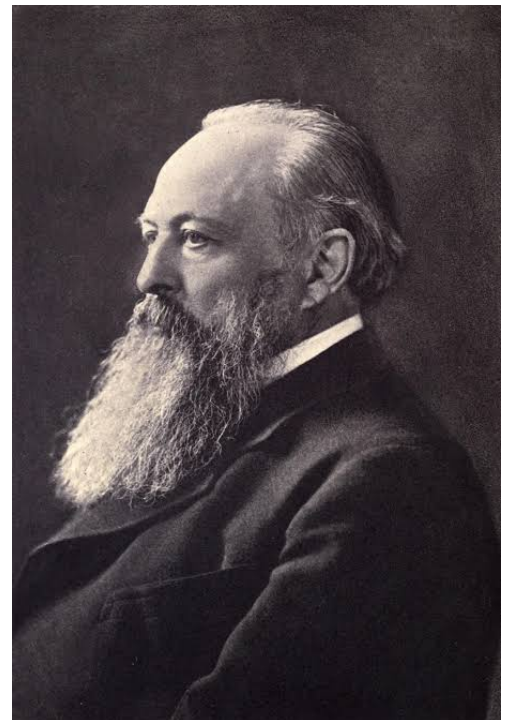
We exchange a sign of peace with one another.

The First Lesson: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14
In this is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD.

Knox Singers: Jesu, joy of man's desiring
J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The Second Lesson: Ephesians 5: 15-20
In this is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD.

John Emerich Edward Dalberg-Acton, 1st Baron Acton, 13th Marquess of Groppoli, KCVO, DL (10 January 1834 – 19 June 1902), better known as Lord Acton, was an English Catholic historian, politician, and writer. He is best remembered for the remark he wrote in a letter to an Anglican bishop in 1887: "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely."



Hymn:

Christ, be our light

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)



1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.
Chorus:
Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church
gathered today.
2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us,
make us your living voice.
Chorus
3. Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.
Chorus
4. Longing for shelter people are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.
Chorus
5. Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Chorus

Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)

Sermon: Power, naivete and wisdom

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/XmZQpiu-UZ0>

Hymn:

Hyfrydol

Rowland Huw Prichard (1811-1887)



1. Holy wisdom, lamp of learning,
bless the light that reason lends.
Teach discernment as we kindle
sparks of thought your Spirit sends.
Sanctify our search for wisdom
and the truth that sets us free.
Come, illumine mind and spirit
joined in deepest unity.
2. Vine of truth, in you we flourish;
by your grace we learn and grow.
May the word of Christ among us
shape our life, your will to know.
Joined to Christ in living, dying,
may we help the Church convey
witness to the saving gospel,
bearing fruit of faith today.
3. Holy God, the hope of nations,
tune us to your righteous will,
as the symphony of ages
claims our best, our finest skill.
Shape our search for peace and justice
through prophetic deed and word.
Christ, conduct us, set our rhythm,
that God's praise be ever heard.

Ruth Duck (b. 1947)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Linda Wilkins

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

We commit this offering to the wisdom of God.

MAY THE FOOD FEED JUST THE RIGHT PEOPLE.

MAY THE MONEY PROVIDE THE CORRECT SUPPORT.

AND MAY THE PEOPLE SERVE WITH WISDOM AND LOVE.

For we pray this in the name of Jesus,

AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:

Laudate Dominum

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)



1. You servants of God,
your Sovereign proclaim,
and publish abroad
that wonderful name;
the name all-victorious
of Jesus extol;
who, sovereign and glorious,
now rules over all.
2. Then let us adore,
and render God's right,
all glory and power,
all wisdom and might,
all honour and blessing
with angels above,
and thanks never-ceasing,
and infinite love.

Amen, amen!

Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Trumpet Tune
Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 18 August – 24 August
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
11.00am Congregational Meeting
12.00pm Lunch at Black & White Café
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 25 August – 31 August
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
11.30am Shalom in Committee Room
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Congregational Meeting - A meeting to present the 2024-2025 Knox budget will be held immediately after the morning service. Copies of the budget can be found at each entrance to the church.

Te Whare Roimata - The staff at Te Whare Roimata are extremely grateful for Knox's support in providing so much food and personal hygiene options. Knox's contribution makes a huge difference in people's lives. Thank you for your continued support. The need continues.

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.

Free te reo classes - testing the water -

In October and November of last year, Knox hosted a series of five free classes in te reo Māori for fifteen people, followed by a visit to Te Kōhao-tū o Mahaanui Marae for a full day "getting to know us" workshop hosted by Ngāi Tūāhuriri.

Those in attendance considered the classes extremely worthwhile. The events were free, due to a funding grant provided by the Justice Compassion Trust.

Knox Council is keen to see whether there is sufficient interest for the classes and visit to happen for a second group of people. If there *is*, we will approach the tutor to see if she is available, and go looking for some funding.

In the classes, we covered the following:

- getting ourselves ready to do our pepeha
- learning some basic grammar and vocab,
- having regular practice of the Lord's Prayer,
- having regular practice of the Grace,
- reviewing the congregational responses regularly used at Knox,
- learning some prayers before food,
- learning a couple of hymns,
- looking at how some famous Bible passages go in te reo Māori (and how the two languages spin the meaning of those passages)
- exploring some creation stories,
- exploring the difference between karakia and innoi

If you are interested, please contact the office by the end of August. office@knoxchurch.co.nz Since a good size for a class is 15, we'll take the first 15 expressions of interest first.



Lord Acton's famous quote, "power tends to corrupt and absolute power corrupts absolutely" was part of his review of Cambridge Professor Mandell Creighton's History of the Papacy. Acton believed that Creighton had been insufficiently critical of some of the acts of three popes in particular. Initially, Creighton was offended and confused by Acton's criticism. Acton's attack, however, did lead him to rethink his own position. In an 1895 paper, he would write that the papacy, "which had been established for the promotion of morality" had in fact "provided the means for the utmost immorality."

KEVIN HICKMAN
ENTERTAINMENT COLLECTOR

Harmony Waitaha

Presents

The ACapellation Trail

A Musical Journey Across North America

23 August 7pm

The Piano | 156 Armagh Street

Adults \$25-\$35 | Children \$10



What to pray for?

About three hundred years before Solomon acceded Israel's throne in his late teens / early twenties, nine-year-old Tutankhamun became the Pharaoh of Egypt. At the time of the signing of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Queen Victoria was twenty.





The Bible readings for next week will be:

- 1 Kings 8: 22-30, 41-43
- Psalm 84

Knox Directory

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Office hours:
Monday - Friday, 9.00am-noon

Visit our website

<http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/>



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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
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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