

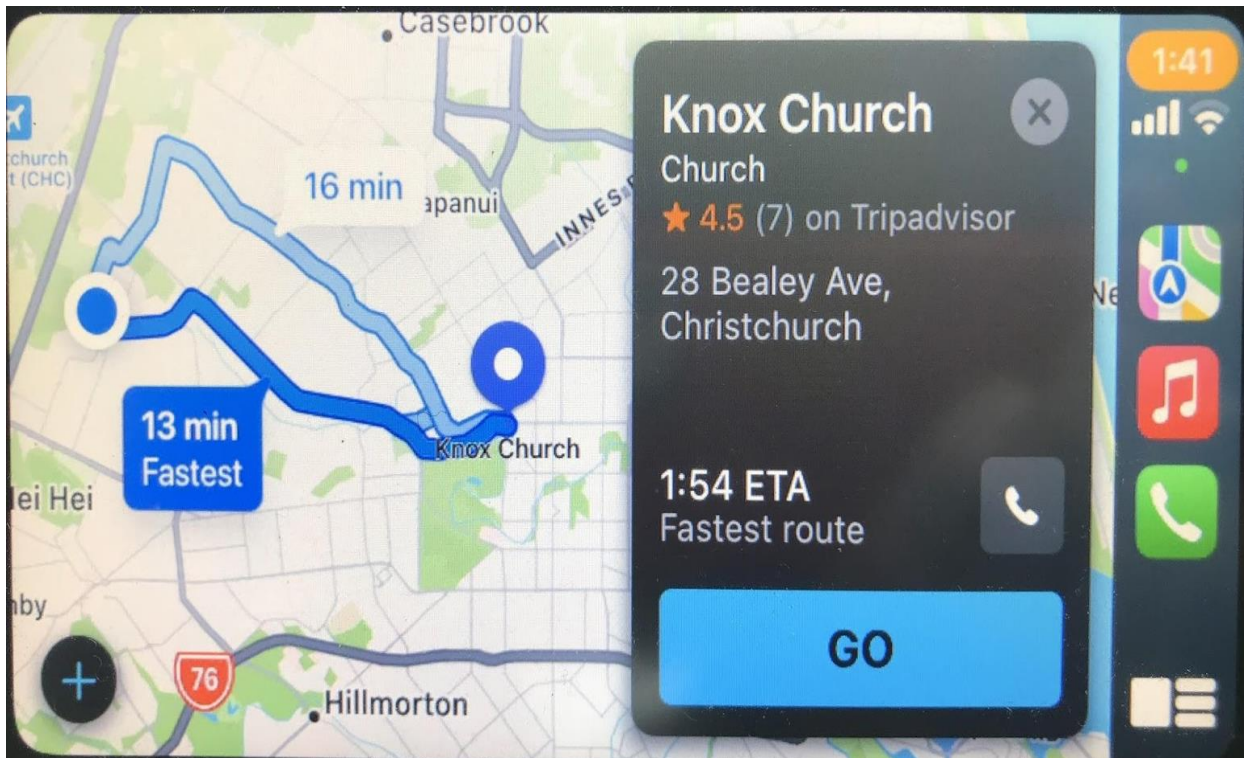


KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

13 October 2024



The Journey of Life

service conducted by Rev. Norman Wilkins

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:

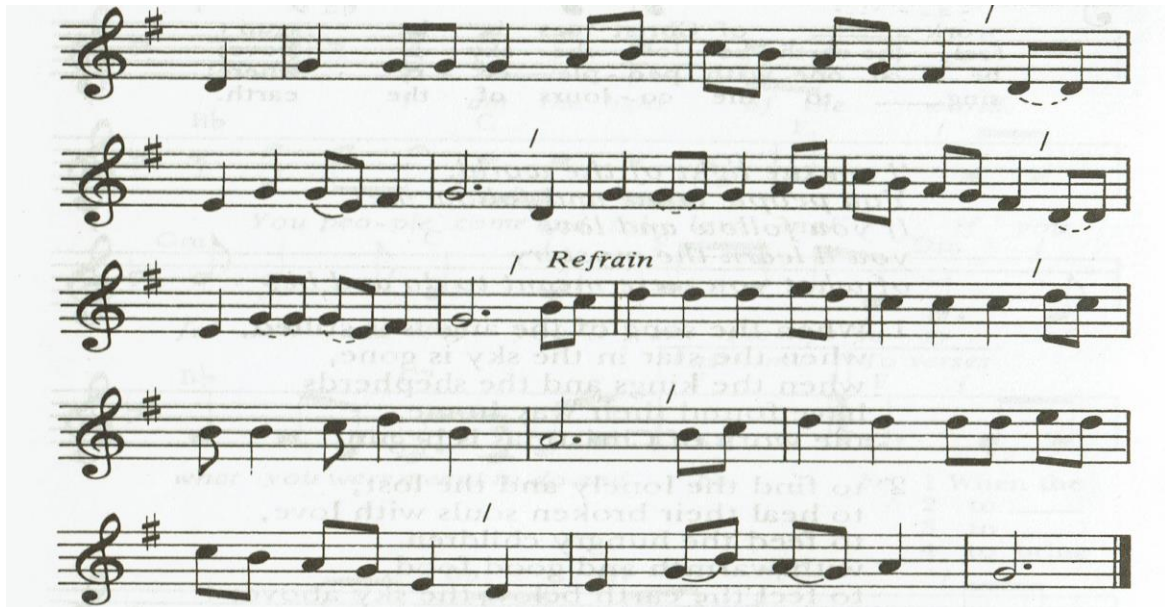
JESUS WHO IS GOD'S LIGHT
GUIDING US WHO SEEK HIM
SO THAT WE CAN MAKE OUR WORLD GOOD
AS GOD ONCE SAID "VERY GOOD"

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, a light in the world

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn: WOV670 The Journey of life



1. The journey of life may be easy, may be hard,
there'll be dangers on the way;
with Christ at my side I'll take courage as I ride
'gainst the foe that would lead me astray.

*Will you ride, ride, ride with the King of kings,
will you follow my leader true;
will you shout hosanna! to the lowly Son of God,
who died for me and you?*

2. My burden is light and a song is in my heart,
as I travel on life's way,
for Christ is my Lord, and he's given me his word
that by my side he'll stay.
3. I'll follow my leader wherever he may go,
for Jesus is my friend;
he'll lead me on to the place where he has gone,
when I come to my journey's end.

Valerie Collison 1933

Prayer of Approach

God we have come here with all manner of thoughts, worries, curiosity and maybe expectations.

We are your people, on our unique journeys of life.

Like actual journeys, there are times of downhill coasting along, there are tiresome, worrying and really hard times. When all seems easy we can be startled by sudden turbulence. There is waiting for something to happen when it is like shuffling along in a queue.

The gift of life you have given us is our passport to make this journey.

AT TIMES IT HAS BEEN HARD, CONFUSING OR EVEN SEEMED HOPELESS.

God, our journeys are unique. Can we say that we aim to live the very best lives we can? I hope we can, and maybe we have too good a view of ourselves or lack confidence, but God we reckon we are doing the best we can, at least most of the time; but probably not always.

There are times when we are not sure what is the best thing to do or way to go; choices are confusing. We can lose our sense of direction; we can say that is not knowing what is right or wrong. Maybe for some of us we can be distracted from the path we know is right by an alluring different path, and we can even think - "I know I shouldn't but I'm going to explore that way anyway."

GOD WE ADMIT THAT WE CAN BE REBELLIOUS OR WE EXCUSE OURSELVES FOR DOING WHAT WE KNOW WE SHOULD NOT. ON OTHER OCCASIONS WE KNOW WE HAVE DONE WHAT IS GOOD AND RIGHT.

God here we are, and only you see clearly what our journey of life has been, and where we are.

God where we have not faithfully followed a wise, good, unselfish and loving life, we ask your forgiveness.

Lord have mercy
CHRIST HAVE MERCY

Lord have mercy

Silence

Assurance and response

God has shared our journey of life, God has known and understood us at every stage of that journey and God is still here with us. God accepts us, welcomes us, and it may be hard to believe, but delights in us. So in confidence we can say that where we have failed, God has forgiven us and there is actually nothing we can do to separate us from His love. So people of God, in the name of Christ I say to you, you are forgiven and you are free.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Theme Prayer:

God, what really do we aim to achieve with our lives? Maybe it is to live those fruits of the Spirit that Paul lists; love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Surely that is so.

Help us to live like that in practical ways, with our family, friends, neighbours and these people we are here sitting amongst.

May our journey of life have the purpose of being responsible, warm hearted, and committed members of the whole human community. May we be preservers of the beauty and wonder of your whole created order.

God help us to do what we can to be peacemakers for anger, racism, mistrust and greed are all too prevalent.

Guide us to see and speak the truth when we hear disinformation and misinformation.

We pray that our journey of life includes travelling alongside those who are working to preserve our precious climate from a future that would be ruinous to the whole of nature. Our scripture tells us that you gave humans, created in your image, responsibility to care for what you saw as not just good, but very good.

May our lives ensure that it continues to be the source of delight that you have made it to be.

Amen

Lord's Prayer

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 Araiki 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: Exodus 13:21

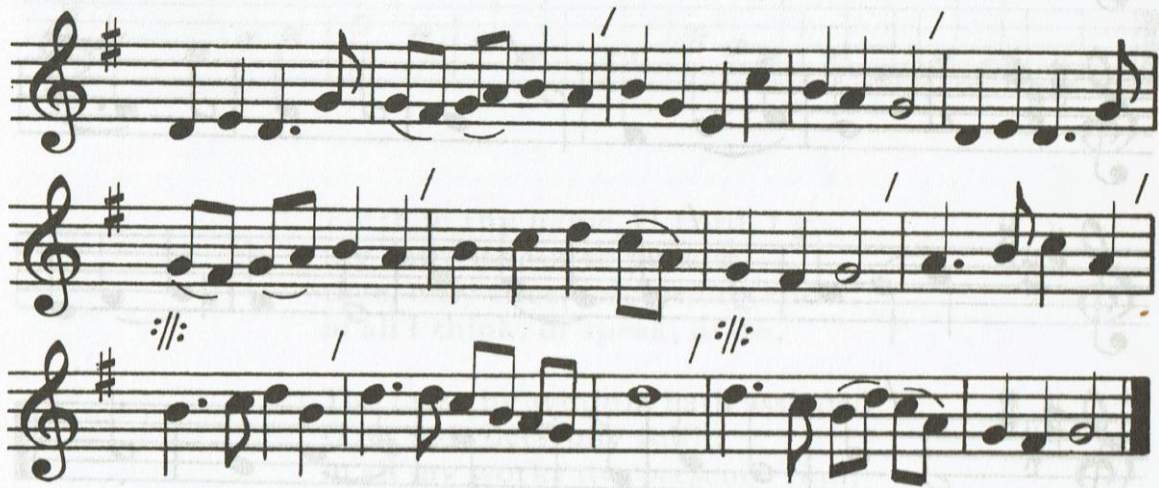
In this is the Word of God
THANKS BE TO GOD.

A brief comment: Getting ready to arrive

The Gospel Lesson: Mark 10: 17-31

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

Hymn: WOV 478 **Guide me O Though Great Jehovah**



1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah

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.

John Hughes 1873-1932

Sermon: **The Journey of Life**

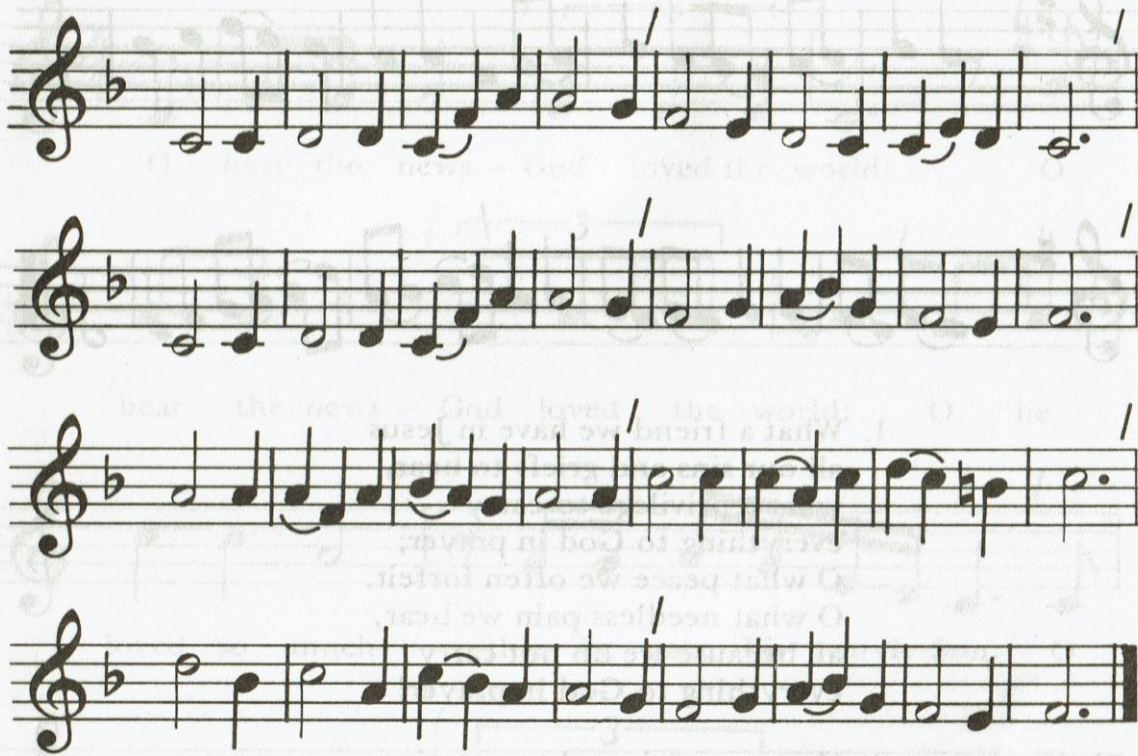
*Generally, sermons are posted on our website shortly after the service at:
<http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html> Hard copies of the sermons are
available before and after the service – ask the person at the door.*

Music for reflection: **The Heart of Peace** (*Mons Leidvin Takle, Norway born 1942*)

Hymn: God who sets us on a journey

BLAENWERN 87.87 D

William Penfro Rowlands
1860-1937



God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward,
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.

Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.

End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack –
once we've started on this journey
there can be no turning back;
let us travel light, discarding
excess baggage from our past,
cherish only what's essential,
choosing treasure that will last.

When we set up camp and settle
to avoid love's risk and pain,
you disturb complacent comfort,
pull the tent pegs up again;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

Words: Joy Dine (1937 – 2001) © Revd Mervyn Dine. Reproduced with permission; available for reproduction for the purposes of worship.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Linda Wilkins

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

We may not have sold everything and are now giving it to the poor, for in all sincerity we do not believe that is part of the way that is right on our journey of life.

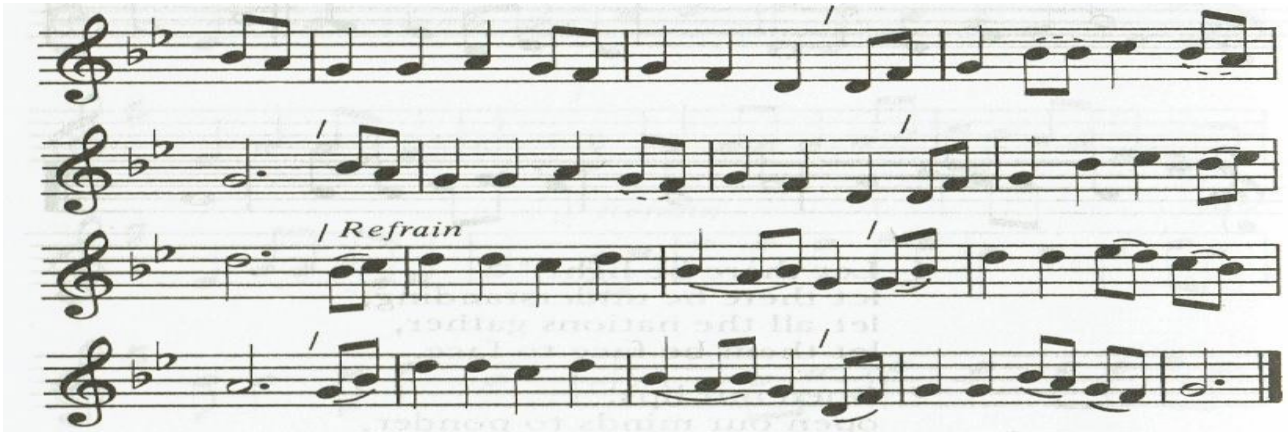
BUT GOD WE HAVE GIVEN FOOD AND MONEY AND WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO. WE PRAY THAT THESE GIFTS OF FOOD WILL HELP TO SUSTAIN THE LIVES OF THOSE WHO ARE LESS FORTUNATE THAN US, AND THAT THESE GIFTS OF MONEY WILL WORK TO ACHIEVE YOUR WILL.

Bless this offering we bring through Jesus Christ.

AMEN

Notices

Hymn: WOV 672 Where the road runs out



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. (Chorus)

3. When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,
when tomorrow's storm draws near,
be the spirit bird hov'ring overhead
who will take away our fear. (Chorus)

Colin Alexander Gibson 1933

Benediction and Sung Amen

And now God, who is the source of all this life calls us to go and live life fully.
And God, who is the essence of all the love, calls us to go and love wastefully.
And God, who is the ground of all very being, calls us to go and have the
courage to be ourselves.

*(Rev. Allen V Harris using the language of Bishop John Shelby Spong and Paul
Tillich)*

May the blessing of God our creator, redeemer, and giver of life be with us all.

**While the Bible and the minister leave the church we sing to each other:
“God speed you on your way” by Shirley Murray**

God speed you on your way,
safe keep you ev'ry day,
give you wing, cause to sing--
all this we wish and pray.

God give you space to thrive,
all senses kept alive,
health and hope, means to cope,
joyfully to arrive.

God lead you to the new,
places and points of view,
paths to take, friends to make,
more life to travel through!

Postlude: Festive Trumpet Tune (David German)

Following the service, morning tea and coffee are served in the church.
Music printed in this order of service is covered
under a music copyright licence agreement: LicenSing #604802.



NOTICES

This Week:	13 October – 19 October	
Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Shared Lunch in Lounge
	11.30am	Shalom
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study
Next Week:	20 October – 26 October	
Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	12.00pm	Lunch at Black & White Café
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Shared Lunch: Today in the Lounge. Please bring a plate of food to share. Don't worry if you forgot your plate as there is always plenty to share. This will be the final shared lunch for 2024 beginning again in 2025. All welcome.

Sunday lunch 20 Oct – 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, preferably no later than Wednesday the 16th.



Heritage Festival: Knox Open Day – Saturday 19 October 2-3.30pm. All welcome to pop in and enjoy the music.

Help Requested Please - As Knox is hosting the launch of Anne Manchester's book about Shirley Murray on Sunday 20 October, help will be needed to provide finger food for light refreshments at the event. If you are able contribute a plate of food, please tell Lynda in the church office - email: office@knoxchurch.co.nz or phone: (03)379 2456.

Prayers at the Peace Bell - the Canterbury Interfaith Organisation is holding its annual Prayers for Peace gathering at the Peace Bell in the Botanic Gardens at 2:00pm on Sunday 20 October. Matthew will lead one of the prayers. Knox people are very welcome.

You Are Invited... (at unavoidable short notice) to hear WEST PAPUAN ACTIVIST VICTOR YEIMO 7.30pm next Friday 18 October @ Knox Church Centre, cnr Bealey Ave & Victoria St.

Come at 7pm for a cuppa; plenty of parking. Koha please to help with expenses.

Victor has been imprisoned by Indonesia a number of times including 3 months solitary confinement for leading rallies in favour of West Papuan independence and speaking out about racism.

Victor is the international spokesperson for KNPB (peaceful campaign for self-determination) and PRP (Papuan People's Petition) that rejects the continuation of Special Autonomy for West Papua.

DON'T MISS THIS IMPORTANT ADVOCATE FOR WEST PAPUAN SELF DETERMINATION.

Further info from Brian Turner, Coordinator of West Papua Action Canterbury – ph: 021 129 4305, [email:bhturner41@gmail.com](mailto:bhturner41@gmail.com).

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

We'll be having our annual "Blessing of the Animals" service next Sunday (20 October). One of the regular features of this service is the playing of a slideshow of images of much loved pets who are no longer with us. If you have a photo to be included, please send it to Lynda in the office by Wednesday (16 October) and she will make sure it is included.

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.



Peace is Her Song:
the life and legacy of Shirley Erena Murray
- a special book launch -

Please join author Anne Manchester, the Rev. Dr Matthew Jack and hymn writer Marnie Barrell at a special launch in Ōtautahi Christchurch of *Peace is Her Song: The life and legacy of hymn writer Shirley Erena Murray*.

When: 20 October, 5pm

Where: Knox Church Centre Hall, 28 Bealey Ave

What to expect: A musical celebration of Shirley's life and gifts as this country's and one of the world's most noted hymn poets.

Books will be on sale for \$50. Eftpos available.

For more information about *Peace is Her Song*, go to:

<http://www.philipgarsidebooks.com/>





The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Genesis 1:1-5
- Genesis 1:20-25

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

Director of Music: Jeremy Woodside
jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com

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