

KNONX CHURCH

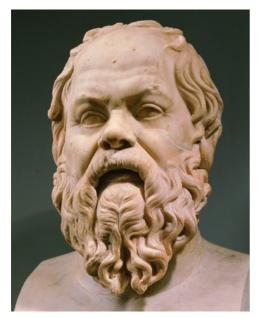
love faith outreach community justice

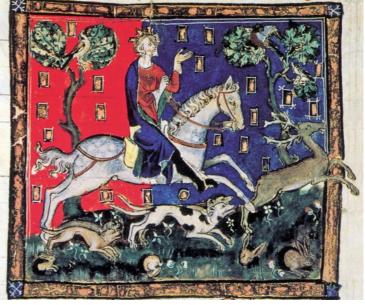
Order of Service

17 November 2024









THE RULERS

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 South 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, A JEWISH PERSON IN A ROMAN-OCCUPIED LAND;

JESUS, FINDING HIS TRUE CITIZENSHIP IN THE HOUSE OF GOD;

JESUS, SPREADING A SUBVERSIVE WORD

ABOUT A NEW ORDER COMING.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

<u>Hymn</u>:



- 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!
- 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!
- 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

Present trouble always seems real, and more often than not, real it is. Yet a psalmist decides to sing of not fearing, because the Lord of Hosts is with us.

GOD IS WITH US EVERMORE!

Mountains sometimes shake and tremble, floods sometimes rage.

Spears sometimes fly through the air and nations gnash their teeth.

Yet a psalmist writes a song of being still and safe, and the cessation of war.

GOD IS WITH US EVERMORE!

Global events, O God, can make us feel insecure; we can worry about power dynamics, geopolitical fulcrums, and how well locked in the box is the red button to disaster. Perhaps in our times, we need to be reassured that the Lord of hosts is with us.

GOD IS WITH US EVERMORE!

Be with us, O God, and hear our silent worship.

Silence

Observing troubled times, O God, we sometimes are tempted to pull the curtains, and pretend that there is a line between us and the world. We use the power we have to isolate ourselves, rather than to step forward with Christ into serving you and our neighbours. As we study tactics of avoidance of responsibility, does your call just go away? No; so we say

Lord have mercy.

CHRIST HAVE MERCY.

Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

You are forgiven and you are free. **THANKS BE TO GOD.**

The Theme Prayer:

You have placed us, O God, into organized societies.
Some of us live in monarchies, some in oligarchies, some in democracies, some in dictatorships.
We are free and not free within the evolving structures of our governance.

GIVE US SUCH AN UNDERSTANDING
OF OUR CITIZENSHIP OF HEAVEN,
THAT WE MIGHT WORK CREATIVELY
WITHIN OUR CONSTITUTIONAL REALITIES,
AS SERVANTS OF YOUR GRACE AND COMING REIGN.

For we pray this in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray together, always 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: Psalm 16

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

Knox Singers: The Eternal gifts of Christ the King

arr. Henry Ley (1887-1962)

The Gospel Lesson: Mark 13: 1-8

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.



- Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand; ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.
- 2. King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood, Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood, he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.
- 3. Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way, as the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day, that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.
- 4. At his feet the six-winged seraphs, cherubim with sleepless eye, veil their faces to the presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

From the Liturgy of St James, 4th Century

<u>Sermon</u>: Four stories, and a wee word from Jesus 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/hD6lqT1vWMs

Hymn:



- O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and act upon your word, we honour and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.
- 2. Then hear, O gracious Saviour, accept the love we bring, that we who know your favour may serve you as our king; and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill, we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still: to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways, and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.

Michael Perry (1942-1996)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Lesley Hunt

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

We offer food for Te Whare Roimata.
We offer Christmas gifts for PILLARS.
We offer money for the support of this church.

WITHIN THIS FADING ORDER, O GOD, WE OFFER ALSO OUR AVAILABILITY TO BE PART OF WHAT JESUS IS BUILDING, FOLLOWING THE FALLING OF THE STONES OF THE TEMPLE.

May all that we offer find life and power in its dedication, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST, AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:



- 1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice; tender to me the promise of the word; in God my saviour shall my heart rejoice.
- 2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's name! Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done; his mercy sure, from age to age the same; his holy name the Lord, the Mighty One.
- 3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by. Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
- 4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore!

Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Allegro from Horn Concerto no. 3 in E flat

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-91)

Horn, Elizabeth Christensen

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 17 November – 23 November

Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship

12.00pm Lunch at Black & White Café

Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 24 November – 30 November Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship

11.30am Shalom in Committee Room

Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Collections in November – During November we will be collecting Christmas treats and gifts for Pillars as we have done for many years now. Pillars is an organisation which supports the families of people in prison and they greatly appreciate our donations of Christmas gifts and food which they distribute to their families in the festive season. Please note that this year, with many people struggling financially, we will also continue collecting our regular food donations for Te Whare Roimata. Thank you for your support of these organisations and the needy people they serve.

Knox Life – Let's get your stories and magazine material into the office for inclusion in the December edition of Knox Life. Email: office@knoxchurch.co.nz.

Study Books – don't forget to collect your new booklet if you are someone who receives these. They will be located in the new foyer. Please advise the office if you would like to receive these on a regular basis <u>or</u> if you are a regular who no longer wishes to subscribe.

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.



A book Launch

Celebrated artist Pete Majendie, who has provided installation artworks to Knox for two series of "spiritual reflections on art" (2022 and 2024), has written a book,

"A Deaf in the Family". It's something of a memoir.

You are welcome to attend the book's launch.

Addington Coffee Co-op, 297 Lincoln Road.

Wednesday 20 November 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Liaison meeting - Papanui Innes Central Wards

The final community liaison meeting/hui (networking and connecting) for 2024 will be held as follows:

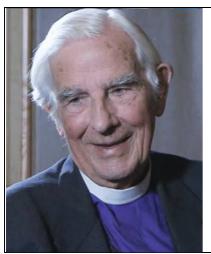
Date: Thursday 28 November 2024

Time: 12.30pm – 2pm

Venue: Kohinga - St Albans Community Centre

Kai will be provided. Please RSVP to Lyssa.Aves@ccc.govt.nz
The Community Development Advisors look forward to seeing you there.

Kindest regards, Lyssa Aves Kaitautoko - Support Officer Community Governance, Waipapa Papanui-Innes-Central



Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

At Knox, over the years, we've sung a number of hymns to words composed by Timothy Dudley Smith (a bishop of the Church of England). This is the first time we've sung one of Timothy's hymns since he died in August of this year. We give thanks for the talents and theologically-engaged minds of those who provide the church with hymns.

Advent and Christmas 2024 - "God with Us"

1 Dec

God with us at the table



ADVENT 1

Following a reflection on a birthday dinner and what it means to express hospitality at a table where food is shared, we celebrate communion. We sing "O come, O come Emmanuel" and "Come thou long expected Jesus. 1 Thessalonian 3: 9-13.

8 Dec

With us whoever we are



ADVENT 2

Prompted by a recent piece of writing by Rev. Emeritus Prof Maurice Andrew, we celebrate the inclusiveness of the expression "God with us". Included in our hymns are "There's a wideness in God's mercy" and the brand new "Human voices sing to God".

15 Dec

With us in the fulness of time



ADVENT 3

The Advent candle lit today is the candle of "patient creativity". Watching all of the nativity characters move into "narrative place", we reflect on God's timing. We sing "Of our God's own heart begotten" and "The angel Gabriel".

22 Dec

Nine Lessons and Carols



ADVENT 4

God with us in the singing of the ancient story. We sing some favourite carols and enjoy hearing some brand new originals written especially for the occasion.



God ponders how to be "with us"

A candlelight service 11:15pm. Christmas Eve



God with us (bus stop)

A simple service for Christmas Day -10:00am



The readings for next week will be:

- "Pilate's Dream" Tim Rice
- Mark 15: 6-15

Knox Directory

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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:
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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