



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

24 November 2024



**WE CHOOSE THE ONE
WHO'S ENTHRONED
IN HEAVENLY SPLENDOUR**

**A Service for
the Festival of the Reign of Christ**

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, ACCUSED IN PILATE'S COURT AS A FAKE KING;
JESUS, CELEBRATED BY THE FAITHFUL AS SOVEREIGN AND LORD;
JESUS, FOR WHOSE COMING KINGDOM WE WAIT.**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

St Helen

George Clement Martin (1844-1916)



1. Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour;
first-begotten from the dead,
Jesus, yes, our strong defender,

vanquishing the people's dread:
alleluia, alleluia,
you the Church's living Head.

2. Here our humble homage pay we,
here in loving reverence bow;
here for faith's discernment pray we,
lest we fail to know you now:
alleluia, alleluia,
you are here, we ask not how.
3. Though the lowliest form has veiled you
as of old in Bethlehem,
here as there your angels hail you,
branch and flower of Jesse's stem;
alleluia, alleluia,
we in worship join with them.
4. Life-imparting heavenly manna
stricken rock with streaming side,
heaven and earth with loud hosanna
worship you, the Lamb who died,
alleluia, alleluia,
risen, ascended, glorified!

George Hugh Bourne (1840-1925)

Prayer of Approach

We Christians of Aotearoa
come to observe this Festival of Christ the King.
JESUS IS THE KING.

Living within a constitutional monarchy,
we have a King who lives in England.
Living within a bicultural constitution,
we have a Queen who lives in Ngaruawahia.
**WE ACKNOWLEDGE EACH MONARCH AS A GIFT
TO OUR PEACE AND ORDER.**

And yet,
somewhere near the heart of our modern constitutional understanding,
is this democratic belief that proper order is met
only when we get to choose our leaders -
THE VALUE OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

We wonder how your wisdom meets this intersection of principles -
and whether maybe you smile
at the thought that you need to be chosen.

For while we know that to welcome the Christ is special,
and that if no one ever did, then something would be diminished,
part of us realises that, whatever our reception,
you still would be "I am who I am".

YOU ARE WHO YOU ARE.

We come today to hear of a crowd given the opportunity
to choose between Jesus the Lord
and Barabbas the murderer.

If we thought even once about what is good for us,
we know how we would choose.

WE CHOOSE JESUS, THE LORD OF LIFE.

Well, as we explore what choice was made,
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 of sovereign wisdom and kindness,
we struggle to discern well what is good for us
and to choose wisely.

We sometimes make choices
that are not to our benefit
or to the benefit of our neighbours.

**THEREFORE, WE PRAY AN OPENNESS TO YOUR WISDOM,
AND FOR THE NURTURING OF OUR CAPACITY
TO RECOGNISE THE GOOD.**

And when we get it wrong,
help our prayer to be

**"HOSANNAH,
GOD SAVE US!"**

For we pray it in the name of the King,
who taught us to pray, together saying

**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 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.

A Reading: Pilate's Dream, from "Jesus Christ, Superstar",
Sir Tim Rice

This text is not Scripture.

STILL, MAY IT AMPLIFY THE SPEAKING OF THE KING.

A Bible Reading: Mark 15: 6-15

We chose Barabbas.

**WHY WOULD WE DO THAT?
GOD FORGIVE US!**

An Introduction: Why choose Barabbas?

We remain seated to sing

Hymn:

Love Unknown

John Nicholson Ireland (1879-1962)



1. My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that they might lovely be.
O who am I
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?
2. He came from his blest throne
salvation to bestow:
but men made strange, and none
the longed-for Christ would know.
But O my friend!
my friend indeed,
who at my need
his life did spend.
3. Sometimes they strew his way
and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day
hosannas to their King.
Then "Crucify!"
is all their breath
and for his death
they thirst and cry.
4. Why, what has my Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet they at these
themselves displease,
and 'gainst him rise.
5. They rise and needs will have
my dear Lord made away;
a murderer they save;
the Prince of life they slay.
Yet cheerful he
to suffering goes,
that he his foes
from thence might free.
6. Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (1624-1684), alt.

A Reflection: Four potential reasons

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:

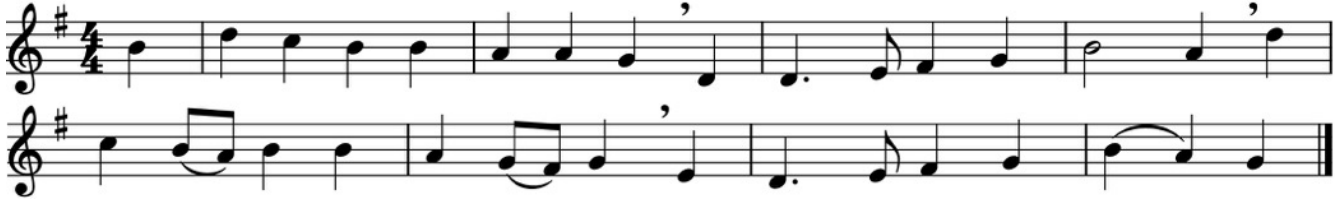
<https://youtu.be/fMupVrEq9CA>

Music for Reflection: Miserere
William Byrd (1540-1623)

Hymn:

Dominus Regit Me

John Bacchus Dykes (1823-1876)



1. The King of love my Shepherd is,
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 oft 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*

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Len Pierce

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

What did Barabbas offer the world?

**WEAPONS -
THE REALITY OF A WORLD IN VIOLENCE.**

What did Jesus offer the world?

A VISION OF GOD LOVING AND HEALING THE WORLD.

What will we offer, O God,
beyond these things of money and food?

**WE OFFER OUR DESIRE TO FOLLOW THE WAY OF JESUS,
AND THROUGH IT, TO BLESS THE WORLD.**

Bless and direct what we dedicate here,
**TO THE GLORY OF JESUS THE KING,
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Diademata

George J. Elvey (1816-1893)



1. Crown with your richest crowns the Christ upon the throne;
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of Christ who rose for you,
and to your risen Saviour bring your thanks for life made new.
2. Crown Christ who rules in peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise;
Christ's reign shall have no end, for 'round those wounded feet
a fragrant garden shall extend forever green and sweet.
3. Crown Christ who holds the years, embracing space and time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:
all hail, Redeemer, hail, for your great love for me;
your praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) and Godfrey Thring (1823-1903) alt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Chant heroique
Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

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: 24 November – 30 November
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
11.30am Shalom in Committee Room
Wednesday 11.00am Final Bible Study for 2024 (note later time)

Next Week: 1 December – 7 December
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
5.00pm Film Group – Red, White & Brass

Next Sunday 1 December: 5pm in the Lounge - Film group: Red, White and Brass (2022). In 2011 some of the Rugby World Cup games were held in Wellington. The Tongan team would play France. Tongan rugby fan Maka misses out on a ticket so he decides to form a marching brass band to perform before the event. He gathers his friends, although none of them know how to play brass instruments or march. Based on this true story, the film is a heart-warming homage to the Tongan community. And at the end, we see a photo of the original band!

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 or if you are a regular who no longer wishes to subscribe.

Prayer For World Peace 27 November 6:00am - 6:00pm St Mary's Church Martindales Road. The church will be open and we invite you in to light a candle for victims of conflict, for refugees, for the wounded, for those mourning, for the homeless, for medical personnel, for aid workers and more. For anyone who touches your heart in these devastated areas.

"If we have no peace it is because we have forgotten we belong to each other."
Mother Teresa

CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHOIR

HANDEL'S
Messiah

SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER, 7.30PM
CHRISTCHURCH TOWN HALL

Dr John Linker **Music Director**

Cso Christchurch Symphony Orchestra



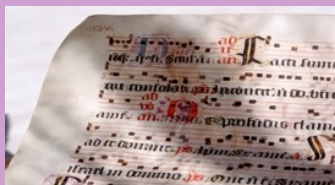
Sarah-Jane Rennie **Soprano** Patrick Power ONZM **Tenor**
Margot Button **Mezzo Soprano** Samuel McKeever **Bass**

Tickets from \$53 Adults, \$49 Senior,
\$20 Students (plus booking fees)
Book at ticketek.co.nz

SUPPORTED BY: CUNINGHAMS TAYLOR LAW | MITRE 10 MEGA FERRYMEAD


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.

Advent and Christmas 2024 - "God with Us"

<p>1 Dec</p>	<p>God with us at the table</p> 	<p>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.</p>
<p>8 Dec</p>	<p>With us whoever we are</p> 	<p>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".</p>
<p>15 Dec</p>	<p>With us in the fulness of time</p> 	<p>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".</p>
<p>22 Dec</p>	<p>Nine Lessons and Carols</p> 	<p>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.</p>



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 Bible reading for next week will be:

- 1 Thessalonians 3: 9-13

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
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