



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

19 January 2025

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# CHARACTER

## 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.

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.

While Jeremy is away today on annual leave,  
we welcome Russell Kent back to the organ bench. Thank you, Russell!

### The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, A VISION OF GOD'S WISDOM MADE HUMAN;**

**JESUS, A VISION OF GOD'S MERCY MADE REAL;**

**JESUS, CALLING US TO FULFILMENT OF THE SPIRIT'S MISSION.**

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. Be my protection, my inspiring light,  
giving me dignity, and great delight;  
be my soul's shelter, my strong highest tower:  
raising me heav'nward, O Power of my power.
4. 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.
5. 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**

For thirteen centuries now, people of faith have been singing that hymn,  
calling upon you to be our vision,  
be our dignity,  
be our delight.

For thirteen hundred years,  
praying in song  
that you would be our wisdom,  
our protection,  
our character-forming comfort.

**IS IT PERHAPS  
BECAUSE WE SAW YOUR BEING ALL THIS  
TO JESUS, THE CHRIST?**

Standing tall in faith,  
serving the lowly with love,  
revealing what holy spirit does  
when dwelling in human life,  
he reveals to saints and sinners alike  
that all things are possible in you.

**THE FIRST-BORN OF THE NEW CREATION  
FILLS OUR VISION  
AND MOVES OUR FEET.**

We bless and praise you.

**STILL BE OUR VISION,  
O RULER OF ALL.**

*Silence*

Insofar as we see reflections of his character in others,  
and to the extent that Christ-likeness appears in people we know,  
or even in people of whom we know,  
we find encouragement for our lives -

**THAT WE MIGHT BE PEOPLE OF VISION,  
AND SERVICE,  
AND COURAGE AND FAITH.**

As we consider this morning  
some stories from the life of Tariana Turia,  
call us, through our faith in Christ  
to nurture within ourselves  
and within our community,

**TRAITS OF CHARACTER  
THAT MIGHT GLADDEN YOUR HEART.**

Further forgive the sins we commit  
that dishonour the image in which we are made  
and hurt those around us.

Indeed, 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:**

Inspired by a vision of Christ,  
and encouraged by the fine service of others,  
give us hearts to seek your fashioning of our lives.

**MAY WE GROW COURAGE,  
FAITHFULNESS,  
PURITY OF DESIRE.  
MAY WE FIND CLARITY,  
GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT,  
AND PEACE AT THE LAST,**

for we pray it in Jesus' name,  
as together we say,

**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.*

**Introduction:** Tariana Turia was born eighty years ago . . .

**Hymn:**

Monk's Gate

English traditional melody



1. We who would valiant be: let us not waver,  
but in true constancy follow the Saviour.  
There's no discouragement shall make us once relent  
our first avowed intent to live as pilgrims.
2. Those who may us surround with dismal stories,  
only themselves confound; our strength the more is.  
No foes shall give us fright, ours is the one true Light;  
we will make our right to live as pilgrims.
3. Since, Saviour, you defend us with your Spirit,  
we know we at the end shall life inherit.  
Cruel rumours, flee away! We'll fear not what they say;  
we'll labour night and day to live as pilgrims.

*John Bunyan (1628-1688), alt.*

**The First Video Clip**

**The First Reflection:** Aunties' advice

**Lesson:** Micah 6: 6-8

**The Second Video Clip**

**The Second Reflection:** Odd bed-fellows

**Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 3: 4-7

**The Third Video Clip**

**The Third Reflection:** I didn't care

**Lesson:** Matthew 4: 8-11

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 these reflections being practised (with original interview clips included) is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/vEyqwb6PQzY>

**Music for Reflection:** Litany  
Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)

### **Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Lesley Hunt*

### **The Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

Using the gifts that God has given us,  
we have gathered this money and food.

**MAY GOD BLESS WHAT WE BRING.**

God also has called us to serve one another  
with integrity, courage and imagination.

**MAY GOD ENABLE US TO GROW THOSE CAPACITIES,  
THAT THE HARVESTS IN OUR LIFE  
MAY BE FULL OF GRACE AND GOODNESS.  
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. God rules from on high,  
almighty to save;  
and still God is nigh,  
whose presence we have;  
the great congregation  
God's triumphs shall praise,  
ascribing salvation  
to Jesus always.
3. Salvation to God,  
who sits on the throne!  
let all cry aloud  
for what God has done:  
the praises of Jesus  
the angels proclaim,  
still veiling their faces,  
they worship the Lamb.
4. 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.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.*

### **Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** "Unto us a Son is born"  
Christopher Tambling (b 1964)

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

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**[office@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz) ph: 379 2456.**





**The Bible readings for next week will be:**

- Isaiah 62: 1-5
- John 2: 1-11