



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

2 February 2025

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**A LATE SUMMER SEASON OF CARING - 1**

**CARING FOR OUR HOME**

**A COMMUNION SERVICE**

## 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.

This is a communion service. The table at Knox is an open one. Members of any church, as well as any who are seeking God sincerely, are welcome to receive communion here.

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.

*At 10:00am, please remain seated while the Singers sing*

**The Introit:** The Search for God

John Rimmer (b. 1939), text by Jocelyn Marshall (b. 1931)

*Remain seated for*

**The Call to Worship:**

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

**JESUS, WHO WHEN ONE OR TWO MEET IN HIS NAME, IS PRESENT;  
JESUS, HOST IN THE HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL PEOPLE;  
JESUS, KING OF A CULTURE OF UNITY.**

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

**MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.**

*While we stand to sing the hymn, the Bible is placed on the lectern.*

## Hymn:

Laast Uns Erfreuen

from Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623



1. To you, O God, all creatures sing  
and all creation, everything  
sings your praises, alleluia!  
Your burning sun with golden beam  
your silver moon with softer gleam  
sing your praises, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
2. Now we who are of tender heart,  
forgiving others, take our part,  
sing your praises, alleluia!  
Christ goes before us to renew  
the way that leads us home to you.  
Hear our praises, alleluia,  
alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*William Henry Draper (1855-1933)*

*based on Canticum of the Sun, Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)*

*adapted by Miriam Therese Winter*

## Prayer of Approach

From the physical structure of this house of prayer for all people, O God,  
which now is ten years old,

**WE SING ON BEHALF OF ALL LIVING CREATURES.**

Since they all have their own voices,  
and express their praise with naturalness,  
perhaps we are arrogant to sing on their behalf.

Yet, maybe we do this

because we are concerned that no creature should be locked out.

**O, THAT NO CREATURE SHOULD BE LOCKED OUT!**

Maybe we learned this concern,  
through the life, death and rising of Jesus.

Maybe we feel "called" by the opening of his arms -

**THE OPENING OF HIS ARMS.**

Today, in this late-Summer Season of Care,  
as we consider what it means to embody his inclusive love  
in our rebuilt church and evolving city,  
perhaps we will mourn our failure properly to love.  
So 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, in Christ you call us to be a people of care.  
**IN A RE-BUILT BUILDING  
AND A FAITH UNDER CONSTANT RE-CONSTRUCTION,  
MAKE US TO BE PEOPLE OF VISION AND LOVE,  
RESISTING THE CULTURE OF CONTEMPT,  
AND SERVING, INSTEAD, YOUR CULTURE OF LOVE,  
TO THE GOOD OF OUR CHURCH AND CITY.**

For we pray this in the name of Jesus,  
**AMEN.**

### **The Notices**

**The Bible Lesson:** Psalm 84: 1-4, 10-12

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

**Knox Singers:** Cantique de Jean Racine  
Gabriel Faure (1845-1924)

English translation of the French text:

*Word of the Highest, our only hope,  
Eternal day of earth and the heavens,  
we break the silence of the peaceful night;  
Saviour Divine, cast your eyes upon us!*

*Pour on us the fire of your powerful grace,  
that all hell may flee at the sound of your voice;  
banish the slumber of a weary soul,*

*that brings forgetfulness of your laws!*

*O Christ, look with favour upon your faithful people  
now gathered here to praise you;  
receive their hymns offered to your immortal glory;  
may they go forth filled with your gifts.*

**Sermon:** A nasty little sermon

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/VbK6GF1kJeM>

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

To the minister's words "God, in your mercy ",  
you are invited to respond "**HEAR OUR 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 Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering.*

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.  
Through your goodness, we bring what we have gathered,  
using the talents that you have given us.  
It will further the work of your kingdom.  
**BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.**

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,  
which earth has given and human hands have made.  
It will become for us the bread of life.  
**BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.**

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.  
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,  
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.  
It will become for us our spiritual drink.

**BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER,  
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, 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.*

### Communion Hymn:

#### Hymn:

Two Oaks

Marty Haugen (b. 1950)



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*
2. Let us build a house where all are named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.



Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

*Marty Haugen (b. 1950)*

*We sit for*

**The Invitation, The Institution, The Setting Apart of the Elements**

**The Great Eucharistic Prayer:**

May God be with you.

**AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

Lift up your hearts.

**WE LIFT THEM TO GOD.**

Let us give thanks to the world's creator.

**IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

It is right indeed . . .

**The Breaking of the Bread**

**Lamb of God:**

Jesus, Bread of Heaven,

**HAVE MERCY ON US.**

Jesus, recreating your people where they stand,

**HAVE MERCY ON US.**

Jesus, foretaste of the new creation,

**GRANT US YOUR PEACE.**

**The Communion**

*For the distribution, please come forward to the table,  
receive some bread, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat. If you prefer  
gluten free bread, some is available on the plinth in front of the bread servers.  
Non-alcoholic grape juice can be taken from the trays held by the glass servers.*

**The Prayer After Communion**

Eternal God,

we give you thanks and praise

that while we were still far off

you met us in your Son, and brought us home.

**MAY WE WHO SHARE HIS BREAD  
LIVE HIS RISEN LIFE;  
WE WHO DRINK HIS CUP  
BRING LIFE TO OTHERS;  
WE WHOM THE SPIRIT LIGHTS  
GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD,  
THAT ALL YOUR CHILDREN SHALL BE FREE,  
AND THE WHOLE EARTH LIVE TO PRAISE YOUR NAME.  
AMEN.**

**Hymn:**

Nun Danket

*Later form of melody by Johann Crüger (1598-1662)*



1. Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom the world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.
2. All praise and thanks to God  
our Maker now be given,  
to Christ and Spirit too,  
our help in highest heaven:  
the one eternal God,  
whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be ever more.

*Martin Rinkart (1586-1649), tr. Catherine Winkworth  
(1827-1878), alt*

**Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Alla Marcia, John Ireland (1879-1962)

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



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## NOTICES

**This Week: 2 February – 8 February**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
5.00pm Film Group  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 9 February – 15 February**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
11.30am Shalom  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Film Group:** Sunday 2 February 5pm in the Lounge – As announced, our first film of the year is **Billy Elliot** (2000). Matthew outlined the film in his sermon of 15th December. The film shows a boy growing up in a bleak Northern England mining town in the Thatcher era. Billy is 11 when, by chance, he discovers a ballet class and soon finds himself immersed in ballet. Despite the opposition from his father and other boys, he follows his dream.

**Sunday lunch 16 Feb** – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat at the **Black and White Café, 45 Merrin St, Avonhead**. Meet at around 12 pm. Please add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance if you are planning to join us.

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



## Patrick Kahnke

has a background as a pastor and church planter for 20 years in St Paul, Minnesota. Resisting labelling, but acquiescing under the label of conservative Christian Republican, this is how he critiqued Bishop Maryann Edgar Budde's sermon in the Washington Cathedral.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rZG5eM7aThk>

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**Tickets: \$25**

(purchased at the door on the day)

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## A Late Summer Season of Caring



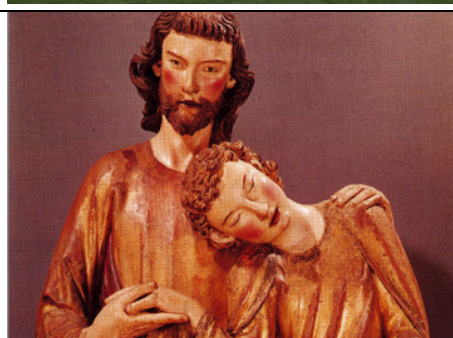
### **Sunday 2 February Caring for our home**

This is the Sunday closest to the date (ten years ago) on which we formally opened the rebuilt church. During the service we'll recall how it felt to be "home again", and how wider plans for our city have proceeded since "quakes" time.



### **Sunday 9 February Caring for our country**

On the Sunday closest to Waitangi Day, we look at caring for the country we are building together.



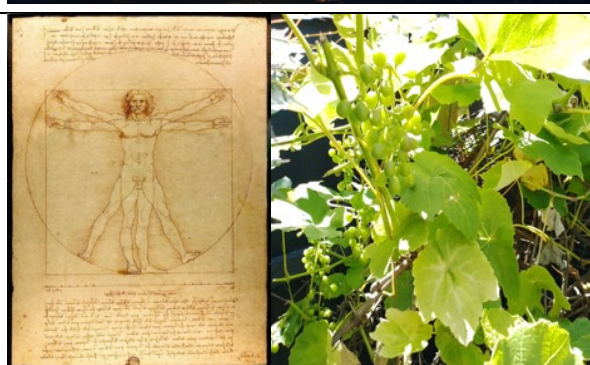
### **Sunday 16 February Caring for one another**

We attend to the joyful matter of commissioning three new members for our Church Council: Jo Fox, Paul Westropp and Murray Win. On Council they will contribute to managing the life of a community of care.



### **Sunday 23 February Caring for the planet - 1 The Living Thing**

Acknowledging that creation is a living thing, we explore what living things need to flourish - nourishment, rest, love. After the service, Dr Richard Milne, Independent Health Economist, will conduct an interactive session exploring, among other things, the nine planetary boundaries.



### **Sunday 2 March Caring for the planet - 2 The Connected Thing**

An understanding of the connectedness of creation moves us to consider our global responsibilities. After the service, we hear more from Richard Milne.



## The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Isaiah 50: 4-7
- Romans 12: 9-18

## Knox Directory

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## Keeping in Touch

Would you like to give our office your contact details so that we can send you our quarterly magazine and other Knox communications?

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