



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

8 February 2026

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**HONOUR THE WORD,  
BUILD THE HOUSE.**

**- A SERVICE AFTER WAITANGI DAY -**

## 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 city 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, MAKING A HOME AMONG US;**

**JESUS, WHOSE WORD HAS ETERNAL INTEGRITY;**

**JESUS, RAINING UPON OUR MOUNTAINS HONOUR AND TRUTH.**

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

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

### Hymn:

Dunedin

Vernon Griffiths (1894-1985)



1. Where mountains rise to open skies  
your name, O God, is echoed far,  
from island beach to kauri's reach,  
in water's light, in lake and star.

2. Your people's heart, your people's part  
be in our caring for this land,  
for faith to flower, for aroha  
to let each other's mana stand.

3. From broken word, from conflict stirred,  
from lack of vision, set us free  
to see the line of your design,  
to feel creation's energy.

4. Your love be known, compassion shown,  
that every child have equal scope:  
in justice done, in trust begun  
shall be our heritage and hope.

5. Where mountains rise to open skies  
your way of peace distil the air,  
your spirit bind all humankind,  
one covenant of life to share!

*Shirley Murray (1931-2020)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

Verse One: we sing of natural beauty,  
mountains, beaches, trees;  
lake, light and Southern stars.

**IT IS INDEED BEAUTIFUL,  
SO WE OFFER PRAISE.**

Verse Two: we sing of the people's heart caring,  
of respect among peoples, of love flourishing.

**IT IS INDEED NOBLE,  
SO WE OFFER PRAISE.**

Verse Three: we sing of broken word, and conflict stirred.  
We sing of lack of vision,  
and drifting away from the line of God's design.

**IT RINGS TRUE,  
SO WE PREPARE TO CONFESS.**

Verse four: a vision of every child having equal scope,  
a vision of justice becoming our heritage and hope.

**IT PROVOKES OUR IMAGINATION AND FAITH,  
SO WE WILL CONFESS IN HOPE.**

*Silence*

On a Sunday close to Waitangi Day,  
we worship in the light of the early hopes and commitments we expressed.  
We worship, also though  
in the shadow of wars, confiscations and promises broken.

**WE WILL NEED A KIND HAND TO BE EXTENDED,  
THAT WE MIGHT FIND OUR WAY TO A BETTER PLACE.**

Confident that God can build the house, 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:**

God, whose Word is honourable  
and whose promise stands,  
you inspire us to be true  
in our commitments.

You call us to wait upon you  
as we build the house in which we live.

**GIVE US YOUR WISDOM  
AND STRENGTH OF CHARACTER,  
TO BUILD A GOOD FUTURE  
IN THE BEAUTIFUL ISLANDS  
FOR WHICH WE CARE.**

We pray this in the name of Jesus,  
whose words we recall  
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.

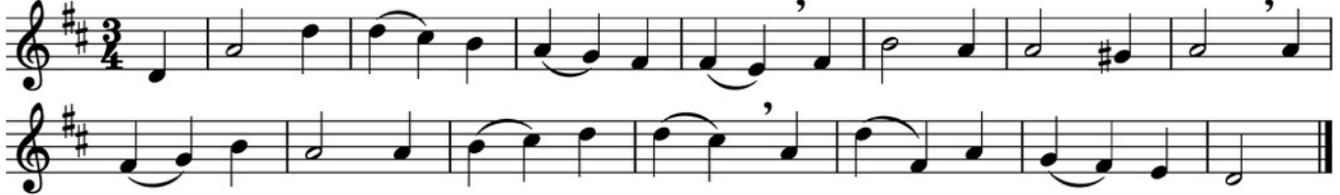
**A KI A KOE ANO HOKI;  
AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*We exchange a sign of peace with one another.*

### Hymn:

Abridge

melody by Isaac Smith (1734-1805)



1. On Aotearoa's shores,  
in tōtara forest glade,  
we sing of God's creative hand  
by which our home is made.
2. We sing of how we build in vain,  
unless the house is made  
by God, and then to God we turn  
for courage, truth and aid.
3. We sing of sacred vows we made,  
to which we put our name;  
we sing of promise pledged, and then  
of dealing with the shame.
4. So, now our nation stops for thought  
on honour, promise, word,  
we pray the wisdom of God's heart  
among us will be heard.

*Matthew Jack (b. 1963)*

### An Introduction:

Strange little story about a guitar

### The First Lesson:

Matthew 5: 33-37

This is the gospel of Christ.

**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

**A Reflection:** Honour the word

Generally, sermons are posted the sermon page of our website shortly after the service. 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/4gP3kmQiY7c>

**Music for Reflection:** Chorale prelude on “Abridge”  
Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

**The Second Lesson:** Psalm 127: 1-2

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

**A Reflection:** Build the house

**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 prophets speak,  
and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek  
to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
and as a symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*

3. Let us build a house where hands will reach  
beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger:  
*All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.*
  
4. 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)*

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

*led by Len Pierce*

### **The Offering and Dedication**

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

You enabled us to build lives  
of sufficient prosperity,  
**THAT WE CAN BUY FOOD  
AND OFFER MONEY.**

Enable us, also, O God,  
to build a life that will be good  
for the people with whom we share this country,  
**THAT IT MAY BE A HOUSE OF HONOUR, JUSTICE AND BLESSING.**

This is our prayer,  
through Jesus Christ,  
**AMEN.**

### **Notices**

## **Hymn:**

Regent Square

Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)



1. Glory to our God, Creator,  
glory be to Christ, our Sun,  
glory be to God the Spirit,  
great Redeemer, Three in One!  
Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
while eternal ages run.
2. Glory be to One who loved us,  
came our loyalties to claim;  
glory be to God who won us,  
caught our spirits in the flame;  
Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
to the One whose love remains.
3. Glory be to God in this day,  
with our current weal and woe;  
glory be to God who calls us,  
in whose name we've far to go.  
Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
to the God in Christ we know.
4. 'Glory, blessing, praise eternal!'  
thus the choir of angels sings;  
'Honour, riches, power, dominion!'  
thus its praise creation brings;  
Glory, glory, glory, glory,  
from our hearts our worship springs!

*Horatius Bonar (1808-1889),  
alt. Matthew Jack*

## **Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Postlude: Praeludium in G  
Nicolas Bruhns (1665-1697)

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

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## NOTICES

**This Week: 8 February – 14 February**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
11.30am Shalom  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 15 February – 21 February**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
12.00pm Lunch at Urban Eatery  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Shalom** - meet in the Lounge at 11:30am. Everyone welcome.

**Sunday lunch 15 Feb** – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat after church at Urban Eatery (Oderings, Barrington). We meet at around 12pm. Please, add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance. To confirm numbers with the venue it would be appreciated if names were in by Wednesday the 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Knox Life** – Please send your stories/jokes etc. asap to the office for inclusion in the next edition. We would love your input.

**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.

## New Year greetings from Te Whare Roimata which receives our weekly food donation

Dear Matthew, Jean, Janet, Doug and parishioners,

As the new year begins I write on behalf of Te Whare Roimata Trust to express our sincere appreciation for the weekly support you loyally provide for those struggling in the Inner City East and Linwood West neighbourhoods.

As hardship deepens, cruel punitive welfare measures are pursued, and increasing numbers struggle to find affordable housing close to their supports more people are forced to rely on the generosity of churches, community groups and the caring of others.

The weekly donations and the Christmas cheer you provide not only ensures people doing it push are remembered and acknowledged but also fed by people who care.

Our organisation very much values the partnership we have with Knox Church embodied in our connection with Doug, Jean and Janet, and appreciates the generosity shown by your parishioners, often extending beyond the donations of food.

We thank you all. May 2026 be a kind year to you all. Blessings. Jenny Smith.



**FREE**

Te Rā O Ngā Tamariki

# Children's day! 2026

**Sunday 1 March**  
**11am–3pm**

**Cuthberts Green, Bromley**

Event parking and entry from Linfield Park, 56 Kearneys Road

[ccc.govt.nz/childrensday](http://ccc.govt.nz/childrensday)

For more information phone 03 941 8999



No smoking



No dogs permitted





## The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Matthew 17: 1-9
- 2 Peter 1: 16-19

## Knox Directory

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Visit our website

<http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/>



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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?

Name:

Address:

Phone:

Email: