



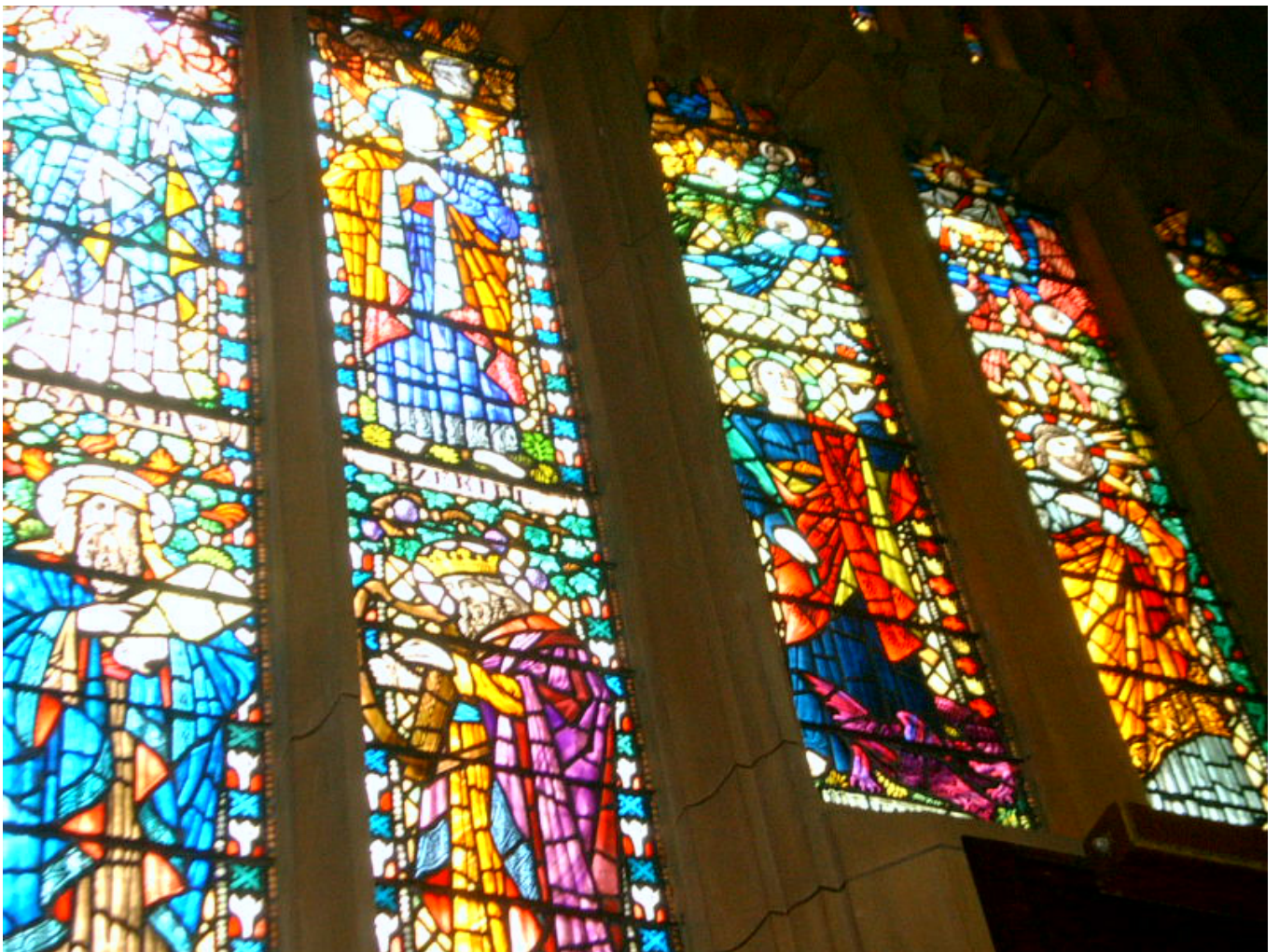
# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

24 May 2026

---



# GIFTED TO BE ONE

a service  
for the Day of Pentecost

## 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 - use your aid's "T" setting.

Toilets are available through the door on the city side of the sanctuary.

The sermon and prayers in this service were written by Matthew with no styling assistance by Artificial Intelligence.

Music printed in this order of service is covered under a music copyright licence agreement: LicenSing #604802.

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 Greeting and Welcome

The Pentecost Narrative: Acts 2: 1-21

### Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, UPON WHOM THE SPIRIT RESTED;**

**JESUS, PROMISING AN ADVOCATE FOR THE PEOPLE;**

**JESUS, IN WHOM WE CELEBRATE THE WIND AND FLAME.**

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

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

## Hymn:

Abbot's Leigh

Cyril Vincent Taylor (1907-1991)



1. Fire of God, titanic Spirit,  
burn within our hearts today;  
fill this place - and may your goodness  
shine through us in every way:  
fan the tiny flame of worship,  
drown our doubting, wake our soul;  
and through Jesus Christ who claims us,  
bless and love us, make us whole.
2. Wind of God, dynamic Spirit,  
breathe upon our hearts today;  
that we may your power inherit  
hear us, Spirit, as we pray:  
fill the vacuum that enslaves us -  
emptiness of heart and soul;  
and, through Jesus Christ who saves us,  
give us life and make us whole.
3. Voice of God, prophetic Spirit,  
speak to every heart today  
to encourage or prohibit,  
urging action or delay:  
clear the vagueness which impedes us -  
come, enlighten mind and soul;  
and, through Jesus Christ who leads us,  
teach the truth that makes us whole.

*Michael Seward (1932-2015)*

## Prayer of Approach

Fire of God,  
Wind of God,  
Voice of God . . .

Your church gathers today,  
remembering your gifting to us of the Spirit,

**THE WONDERS OF THE DAY OF PENTECOST.**

We remember the coming of the Spirit.  
Holy dove,  
wild and wonderful,  
Giver of clarity and unity,  
**BE OUR FREEDOM.**

*Silence*

Spirit of Truth,  
**SHOULD YOU FIND FALSEHOOD IN US,**

Spirit of life,  
**SHOULD YOU FIND DEATH IN US,**

Spirit of creativity and light,  
**SHOULD YOU FIND DULLNESS AND DARKNESS IN US,**

we will need you to be again the God of forgiveness and grace.  
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:**

Holy Spirit of God,  
who came the pure celestial fire to impart,  
**KINDLE A FLAME OF SACRED LOVE  
ON THE MEAN ALTAR OF OUR HEART.**

There let it for your glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze,  
**AND TREMBLING TO ITS SOURCE RETURN  
WITH OUR HUMBLE PRAYER  
AND FERVENT PRAISE.**

For we pray this in the name of Jesus,  
whose words we remember 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.*

**A Reflection:** Can we ever really understand one another?

**Knox Singers:** Listen sweet dove  
Grayston Ives (b. 1948)

*Listen sweet dove unto my song, and spread thy golden wings in me; hatching my tender heart so long, til it get wing and flie away with thee. Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow that the earth did like a heav'n appeare, the starres were coming down to know if they might mend their wages and serve here. The sunne which once did shine alone, hung down his head and wisht for night, when he beheld twelve sunnes for one, going about the world and giving light. Lord though we change thou art the same, the same sweet God of love and light: restore this day for thy great name, unto his ancient and miraculous right.*

George Herbert (1593-1633)

**A Scripture Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-13

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

## **Hymn:**

Hereford

Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)



1. O thou who camest from above  
the pure celestial fire to impart,  
kindle a flame of sacred love  
on the mean altar of my heart.
2. There let it for thy glory burn  
with inextinguishable blaze  
and trembling to its source return,  
in humble prayer and fervent praise.
3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire  
to work, and speak, and think for thee;  
still let me guard the holy fire,  
and still stir up thy gift in me,
4. ready for all thy perfect will,  
my acts of faith and love repeat,  
till death thy endless mercies seal,  
and make the sacrifice complete.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

## **Sermon:** Hissing cats, utility and street brawls

*Generally, sermons are posted on 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 version of this sermon is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/ABzCcxU2p2Q>*



## Hymn:

Yr Hun Gan

Welsh traditional tune



1. Holy Spirit, gift bestower  
breathe into our hearts today;  
flowing water, dove that hovers,  
Holy Spirit, guide our way.  
Love inspirer, joy releaser,  
Spirit, take our fears away.  
Reconciler, peace restorer,  
move among us as we pray.
2. Holy Spirit, Christ proclaimer,  
wisdom bringer, light our way.  
Fire that dances, wind that whispers,  
Holy Spirit, come today.  
Ease disturber, comfort bearer,  
move among us while we pray.  
Truth revealer, faith confirmer,  
rest within our hearts today.

*Author of text unknown*

## Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*led by Len Pierce*

### The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

We offer our desire to understand one another deeply.

**MAY GOD BLESS OUR OFFERING.**

We offer our willingness to serve a thing greater than ourselves.

**MAY GOD BLESS OUR OFFERING.**

We offer this money and food.

**MAY GOD BLESS OUR OFFERING,**

for this is our Pentecost prayer.

**AMEN.**

## Notices

## **Hymn:**

Spiritus Vitae

Mary Jane Hammond (1878-1964)



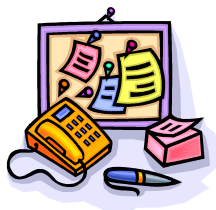
1. O breath of life, come sweeping through us,  
revive your church with life and power;  
O breath of life, come cleanse, renew us,  
and fit your church to meet this hour.
2. O wind of God, come bend us, break us,  
till humbly we confess our need;  
then in your tenderness remake us,  
revive, restore: for this we plead.
3. O breath of love, come breathe within us,  
renewing thought and will and heart;  
come, love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
revive your church in every part.
4. Revive us, Lord! Is zeal abating  
while harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting,  
equip your church to spread the light.

*Elizabeth Ann Porter Head (1850-1936)*

## **Benediction** and **Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Choral variee sur le theme du 'Veni Creator'  
Maurice Durufle (1902-1986)

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



## NOTICES

**This Week: 24 May – 30 May**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
11.30am Shalom  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 31 May – 6 June**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Shalom** - 11.30am in the Knox Lounge. Guest speaker is Dr. Ozayr Ameen who will be speaking about dementia. He is a neurologist affiliated with Neurology at Christchurch Hospital and listed as a Clinical Senior Lecturer within the University of Otago Department of Medicine, Christchurch. Everyone welcome.

For the months of June, July and August 2026, **Shalom** will meet after the church service at 11.30am in the Lounge:

14 June Richard Milne - Resilience in the face of climate change and supply chain disruption  
12 July Robyn Frew - on the subject of death  
9 August Murray Winn - on the relationship between religion and psychology.

We'll break midway for soup and bread roll. Everyone is welcome so just turn up.

**Monday 1 June** (King's Birthday public holiday) - Town Hall Auditorium 2pm. Martin Setchell, annual organ curator's concert. Admission FREE. No registration/booking required. (Donations requested)

**Film Group - Sunday 7 June 4pm** in the lounge: Calendar Girls (2003): Another amazing film based on a true story, and something fun as well as moving. A group of women pose for a charity calendar to raise money for blood cancer research. They pose 'nude' but they are always shown decently covered... and the women in the film are all the famous veteran English lady actors! A wonderful film for a winter's evening.

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 (Knox Presbyterian Church). 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.



**Save the Date**

**The St Albans Community Choir  
& The Christchurch Accordion Orchestra**

invite you to our concert



**Around the World  
in 80 Minutes**

**Sunday 28th June at 5:00pm**

**St Paul's Parish Church**

**1 Harewood Road, Christchurch**





# Echoes in Stone

## Organ, Voices & Strings

Featuring solo organ works, Handel Organ Concerto,  
string ensemble and choral gems by Conspiro

Jeremy Woodside - Organ  
Grant Bartley - Conductor  
Conspiro - *a choir of friends*

7:30pm Friday 29 May 2026  
St Peter's Church, Church Corner  
Entry \$25.00 (cash only)



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

- Genesis 1:24 - 2:3
- Matthew 28: 16-20

## Knox Directory

28 Bealey Ave,  
Ōtautahi Christchurch 8013

Secretary: Lynda Gerken,  
ph. (03) 379 2456,  
[office@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto: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](mailto:minister@knoxchurch.co.nz)  
voicemail at home (03) 3570 111

Church Council Clerk: Jean Brouwer  
[jean.brouwer@knoxchurch.co.nz](mailto:jean.brouwer@knoxchurch.co.nz)

Director of Music: Jeremy Woodside  
[jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com](mailto:jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com)

Pastoral Visitors:  
Rev Norman and Linda Wilkins  
[g8m8zinbayst@gmail.com](mailto:g8m8zinbayst@gmail.com)  
+64 272499741 (Linda's mobile)  
+64 220667626 (Norman's mobile)



## 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: