



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

12 July 2026

HERENGA WAKA

a service for Matariki

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.

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.

SOME NOTES ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE

Māori New Year. This is the fourth year Knox has observed a Matariki theme on the Sunday closest to "Māori New Year", the day on which the constellation Matariki rises in the skies over Aotearoa New Zealand. We refer to it as "Māori New Year" because it has themes of endings and beginnings, letting go and looking forward. It happens at a time when the earth is sleeping, and when Māori gathered in their homes over the short days and long nights to tell stories around the fire.

Today's theme. Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage has chosen the theme "Herenga Waka" for this year's Matariki celebrations. Herenga Waka presents the image of many waka moored in one place. It hints at many journeys leading people from many places to one safe harbour. So, we will explore a couple of readings about love and understanding bridging cultural divides.

Speaking the Names. Part of the story-telling was the speaking again of the names of those who had died during the previous year. Not speaking the names of the deceased after the tangi was part of "proper mourning" for Māori. When photography arrived, it became customary also to turn framed photos of the dead to face the wall. And then, at Matariki, part of what the community did was "shout out the name" and restore the image. Matariki was a time for speaking out again, with love, the names of those who had disappeared. This is part of our Matariki litany, happening later in the service. We've published notices over the last few weeks, encouraging people to consider names they might "shout out". When Matthew invites you to, please feel free to speak any names that come to mind.

We are delighted this morning to welcome soprano, Deborah Wai Kapohe, who will sing some special Matariki music. Thank you Deborah!

Te Ātihaunui-a-Pāpārangi, Te Aitanga-a-Māhaki, Ngāti Rua (Te Whakatōhea) and Ngāti Kahungunu.

Born in Southland, New Zealand, Deborah has performed in operas, musical theatre, contemporary Māori music, arts festivals, proms, concerts, recitals, self-accompanied guitar and voice recitals, and special events throughout New Zealand and Australia, as well as in the UK, Asia Pacific Region, and South Africa.

Karanga: Reo Karanga,
Dorothy Buchanan (b. 1945)
Deborah Wai Kapohe

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

1. Tama ngākau mārie
Tama a te Atua
Tēnei tonu mātou
Arohaina mai
2. Murua rā ngā hara
Wetekina mai
Ēnei here kino
Wakararu nei.
3. Takahia ki raro
Tau e kino ai
Kei pā kaha tonu
Ko nga mahi hē.
4. Hōmai he aroha
Mōu i mate nei
Tēnei ra e Ihu
Tākina e koe
5. Tēnei arahina
A tutuki noa
Putā i te pōuri
Whiwhi hari nui.

Tama ngākau mārie,
Son of a peaceful heart,

the nights are long,
the days are short,
BUT YOU ARE WITH US.

From many places
and many pasts,
we have heard your voice
**AND COME TO THIS SAFE PLACE OF MOORING,
THE HOUSE OF GOD.**

Here we moor the waka,
light the candle,
prepare ourselves to hear the stories
that speak of our life,
our faith,
our hope.
**STILL OUR HEARTS,
ENFOLD US IN YOUR MATARIKI LOVE.**

Silence

We would provide shelter to others,
BUT OFTEN WE CHASE PEOPLE AWAY.

We would live peacefully with our neighbours,
BUT WE FIGHT ABOUT MANY THINGS.

We would seek to be like you -
children of the peaceful heart,
BUT WARS RAGE AROUND THE PLANET.

Lord have mercy.
CHRIST HAVE MERCY.
Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

People of God,
we have learned through Jesus Christ
that God loves,
God forgives,
God equips us to be children of peaceful hearts.

. . . In the name of Christ, I say to you:
You are forgiven and you are free.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Theme Prayer:

God of shelter and safe harbour,
in Christ you have called a people together,

TO BE ONE

AND TO BE AT PEACE.

No longer Moabite and Hebrew,

NO SLAVE AND FREE,

no longer male and female,

BUT ONE IN CHRIST.

Bless us to be a community

that serves this unifying purpose,

THAT WE MIGHT BE HERENGA WAKA,

A WELCOMING OF MANY SOULS.

We pray this in the name of Jesus,

who taught us to pray, saying

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.

Matariki Reflections

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
version is available from 10:00am today:

https://youtu.be/tH92c_adMho

An Introduction: Herenga Waka - safe harbour for many waka

Hymn:

Fulda

William Gardiner (1770-1853)



1. Where cross the crowded ways of life,
where sound the cries of race and clan,
above the noise of selfish strife
we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
2. In haunts of wretchedness and need,
on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,
from paths where hide the lures of greed
we catch the vision of your tears.
3. O Master, from the mountain side
make haste to heal these hearts of pain;
among these restless throngs abide,
and tread the city's streets again:
4. till all the world shall learn your love
and follow where your feet have trod,
till glorious from your heaven above
shall come the city of our God.

Franks Mason North (1850-1935) alt.

The First Lesson:

Ruth 1: 1-18

In this is the Word of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Needs must that Naomi's waka leave;

RUTH DISCOVERS SOMETHING ABOUT HOME.

A Reflection:

Where you go, I will go
In the harbour, something special has grown.

Hymn:

Columbus

Colin Gibson (1933-2022)



1. Where the road runs out and the signposts end,
where we come to the edge of today,
be the God of Abraham for us,
send us out upon our way.
*Lord, you were our beginning,
the faith that gave us birth.
We look to you our ending,
our hope for heaven and earth.*
2. When the coast is left and we journey on
to the rim of the sky and the sea,
be the sailor's friend, be the dolphin Christ,
lead us on to eternity.
Lord, you were our beginning . . .
3. When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,
when tomorrow's storm draws near,
be the spirit bird hovering overhead
who will take away our fear.
Lord, you were our beginning . . .

Colin Gibson (1933-2022)

The Second Lesson: John 4: 5-23

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

The hour is coming, and is now here,

WHEN TRUE WORSHIPPERS SHALL BE AS ONE.

A Reflection:

A vision in the harbour: a day is coming

Music for Reflection:

Nāu te Hau,
Jenny McLeod (1941-2022)
Deborah Wai Kapohe

The Matariki Litany:

This litany is adapted from one produced by the Catholic Diocese of Auckland

E te Atua, generous God,
by the light of the Southern stars, te marama o ngā whetu,
you guided the great traveller Kupe to Aotearoa,
a land teeming with life and steeped in natural wonder.

**YOU ARE KIND IN ALL YOUR WAYS,
YOUR MERCY KNOWS NO END.**

E te Atua, generous God,
by the light of the Southern stars, te marama o ngā whetu,
you guided the voyaging waka to this land,
a land rich in food and natural resources.

**YOU ARE KIND IN ALL YOUR WAYS,
YOUR MERCY KNOWS NO END.**

E te Atua, generous God,
by the light of the Southern stars, te marama o ngā whetu,
you guided the ship Endeavour and all who followed her to these islands,
islands that nursed the hopes and dreams of many travellers.

**YOU ARE KIND IN ALL YOUR WAYS,
YOUR MERCY KNOWS NO END.**

E te Atua, generous God,
by the light of the Southern stars, te marama o ngā whetu,
you guided all who travelled here,
making of this place a home that is abundant
with the promise of new beginnings.

**YOU ARE KIND IN ALL YOUR WAYS,
YOUR MERCY KNOWS NO END.**

Some weeks from now, Matariki will set.
It will not rise again the next evening.
There are people we love, whose lives have set, who have died,
and whom we miss deeply. We remember their name (pause),
their face (pause),
their presence (pause),
how they blessed us (pause).

Just as Matariki now rises,
let it be a reminder to us, that so too, our loved ones rise to new life.
MAY THEY REST IN PEACE.

We call out their names

Please call out the names of your loved ones who have died since last Matariki

Kia whakapaingia te Atua,
te Matua o to tatou Ariki, o Ihu Karaiti.
Na tana mahi tohu i whanau hou ai,
ki te tumanako ora,
i a Ihu Karaiti
ka ara ake nei i te hunga mate.

trans.

*Blessed be God
the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!
By his act of mercy we are born again
to a living hope
in Jesus Christ
who has risen from the dead.*

1 Peter 1:3

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Brian Turner

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

If we have any capacity to provide safe harbour to others,
we offer it now.

MAY GOD BLESS WHAT WE OFFER.

If we have capacity to help love grow as waka come and go,
we offer it now.

MAY GOD BLESS WHAT WE OFFER.

If this money and food might make a difference,
we rejoice in offering it now.

**MAY GOD BLESS WHAT WE OFFER,
THROUGH JESUS, THE CHRIST,
AMEN.**

Notices

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)

Benediction and **Sung Amen**

Postlude: Introduction and Finale from Kiwi Fireworks
Paul Spicer (b. 1952)

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: **12 July – 18 July**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
 11.30am Shalom
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: **19 July – 25 July**
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
 12.00pm Lunch at Urban Eatery
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Shalom: meets in the Lounge at 11.30 to 1pm. Half way through there will be a 15 minute break for soup and a hot bread roll. Today Robin Frew will be addressing the sensitive topic of death - its aspects and funeral matters. All welcome.

Meditation: on the 3rd Wednesday of the month i.e. 15 July at 8.00am in the chapel - all welcome.

Sunday lunch 19 July – 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 15th.

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 ph: 379 2456.

Peace Sunday

Sunday 2 August 2026

FROM SHAME TO PEACE

Is there peace for those who have experienced public shame? Is there peace for the world while it shames people? This year we're reflecting on an interview with Golriz Ghahraman, who suffered a public scandal (shop-lifting). At one point, she says "I don't want us to feel like we need a redemption arc; I actually want us to find peace."

We explore Jesus' very public act of freeing a woman from her shame, and ponder what resources the Church has to move people from shame to peace. Also interviewed was Tory Whanau (one time Mayor of Poneke Wellington) and Tanveer Ahmed (psychologist and disgraced journalist).



The Merry Widow

24 & 25
July
2026



DIRECTOR - JULIAN ANDERSON | MUSICAL DIRECTOR / ARRANGER - JEREMY WOODSIDE

The ultimate ball-meets-opera experience!

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY TOI TOI OPERA WITH THE SUPPORT OF CREATIVE NEW ZEALAND



BOOK NOW

Tickets: \$65 - \$85

[https://events.humanitix.com/
the-merry-widow](https://events.humanitix.com/the-merry-widow)

Pesta Babi tells the story of Papuans standing up for their land and livelihoods against the otherwise hidden Indonesian occupation, exploitation and military interests which are determined to destroy millions of hectares of forest in the name of development. The 90 minute film has been produced by renowned West Papuan journalist Victor Mambor and directed by Indonesian Dandhy Dwi Laksono. In the first fortnight it [has been viewed](#) more than 13 million times. National Spokesperson for West Papua Aotearoa Catherine Delahunty described the film as “deeply disturbing”.

Free parking available at Aldersgate Centre, access from Chester St West Koha for Papuan Doctors Without Borders, providing free help to West Papuans.

Organised by: West Papua Action Canterbury. For more information: Brian Turner - 021 129 4305 / bhturner41@gmail.com or Neil Lambie – 021 0268 0670 / Neil.Lambie@hotmail.co.nz



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 128
- Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52

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: Jean Brouwer
jean.brouwer@knoxchurch.co.nz

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

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: