

KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

15 November 2026

DON'T BE AFRAID

TO USE WHAT GOD GIVES YOU

a service with a moment of remembrance for Trans-Awareness Week

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.

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

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.

A special welcome this morning to Micah Yang, who is playing while Jeremy is away. Thank you, Micah, for being with us today.

And a special welcome to Moana Vā, members of the Ōtautahi Christchurch Trans community and allies, and Sara Barnes, who will be leading the Litany of Remembrance.
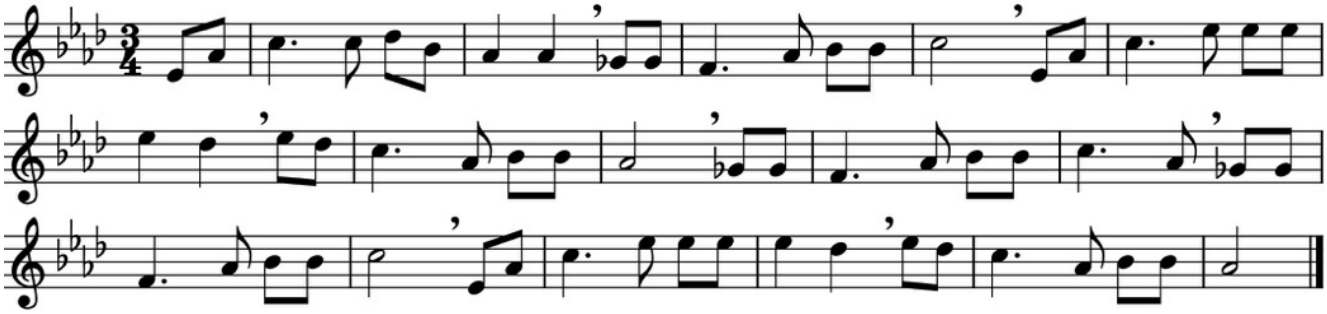
<u>The Call to Worship</u>:

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, a light in the world.
JESUS, WHOSE GOD GIVES GOOD GIFTS;
JESUS, WAKING US UP TO USE THE GIFTS WELL;
JESUS, CHASING AWAY OUR TIMIDNESS AND FEAR.

Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.
MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

O le fa'afetai traditional Samoan hymn



1. Fa’afetai i le Atua
   le na tatou tupu ai
   ina ua na alofa fua
   ia te i tatou uma nei.

   Refrain:
   ia pepese ia pepese
   aleluia faafetai
   ia pepese ia pepese
   aleluia faafetai

2. Faafetai i lona Alo
   le na afio mai luga
   le ua fai ma faapaolo
   mai le puapuaga
   Refrain

3. Faafetai i le Agaga
   le fesoasoani mai
   e manuia ai talosaga
   atoa uma mea e fai
   Refrain

Traditional Samoan hymn

Prayer of Approach

Giving thanks to God
for blessings given to the world,
WE SING OUR FA'AFETAI.

Giving thanks to God
for talents and skills
that enrich our life together,
WE SING OUR FA'AFETAI.

Giving thanks to God
for the times when we have felt useful,
well placed, appreciated and worthy,
WE SING OUR FA'AFETAI.

Pause

Calling to mind the times when we might have been useful,
and might have deployed our gifts in the world
to the benefit of others and the glory of the Giver,
but hung back in apathy or fear,
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:

Gifting God,
increase in us the capacity to see what we ***can*** do,
and take away the fears we sometimes have
that we have nothing to offer.
RATHER, CAPTURE OUR IMAGINATION,
THAT INSPIRED BY YOUR GENEROSITY,
WE MIGHT ACHIEVE OUR POTENTIAL,
AND SERVE YOUR PURPOSES WELL.

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.

Introduction: Providence tips into life

Generally, reflections 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/lsQR08g-qFg

The First Lesson: Matthew 25: 14-23

This is the gospel of Christ.
PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Music for Reflection: Prelude on Rockingham
Donald Hunt (1930-2018)
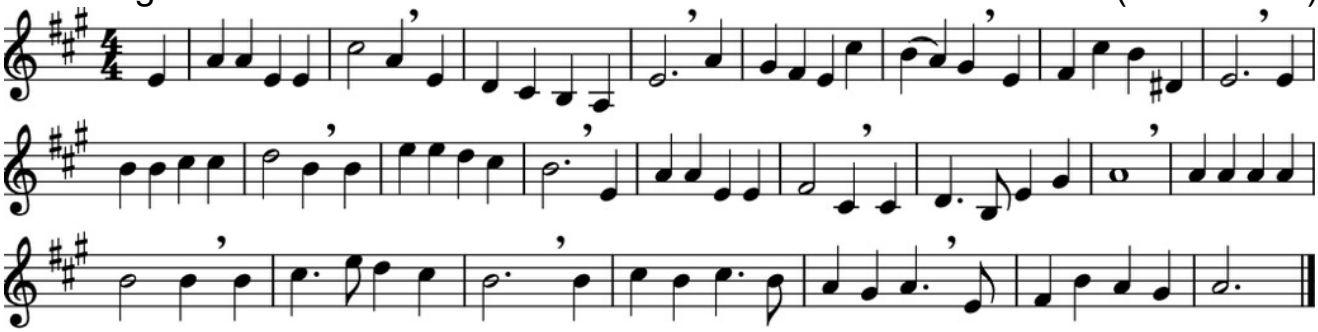
Reflection: In the upper echelons, Monopoly is played

The Second Lesson: Matthew 25: 24-30

This is the gospel of Christ.
PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Reflection: In the other echelons, let's not be afraid

Hymn:
Wir Pflügen Johann Abraham Peter Schulz (1747-1800)



1. We plough the fields, and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered

by God's almighty hand,
who sends the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.
All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
then thank our God, O thank our God,
for blessings of such love.

2. God only is the maker
of all things near and far;
who paints the wayside flower,
who lights the evening star,
obeyed by winds and tempest,
by whom the birds are fed;
much more to us, in needing,
bestowing daily bread.
All good gifts around us . . .

3. We thank you then, Creator,
for all things bright and good,
the Spring-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food.
Accept the gifts we offer
for all your love imparts,
and, what you most desire, God,
our brave and thankful hearts.
All good gifts around us . . .

Mathias Claudius (1740-1815),
tr. Jane Montgomery Campbell (1817-1878),
alt. Matthew Jack

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Jennifer McKinnon

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

You have given us good things,
and challenge us to grow them
without fear or hesitation.
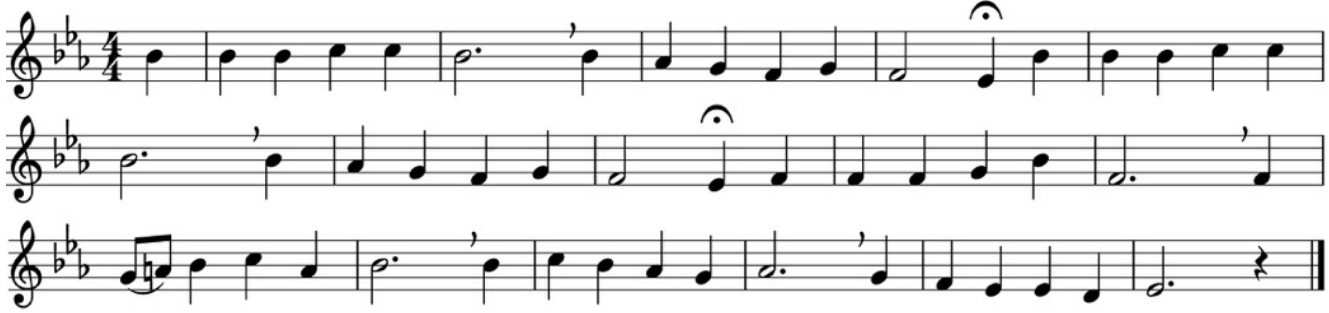
AS WE OFFER THESE GIFTS,
BLESS THEIR USE;
AND BLESS US TO BE COURAGEOUS,
FAITHFUL AND IMAGINATIVE,

for we pray this in the name of Jesus,
AMEN.

A Litany of Remembrance for Trans-Awareness Week,
led by Sara Barnes

Notices

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. O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessèd peace to cheer us.
God, keep us in your grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm
in this world and the next.

3. 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: Prelude on Nun Danket
Stanley Vann (1910-2010)

Following the service, morning tea and coffee are served in the church.
Thanks to Moana Vā for the food!



NOTICES

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

Next Week:	**22 November – 28 November**	
Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Meditation: Come along and experience Mediation at 8am on Wednesday the 18th in the Chapel.

Bus Trip - On Thursday 3 December you are invited to catch the Number 95 bus in Victoria Street opposite Knox to travel to Pegasus for a cafe lunch there by the lake. No need to book - just be at Knox by 10.35am ready to catch the bus at 10.49am. We will reach Pegasus at 11.52am and there will be a short walk to the cafe. Buses depart at five minutes before each hour for the return trip.

Books: If anyone is going to or through Oamaru sometime soon, and would be prepared to deliver a box of books to the Slightly Foxed Bookshop, please contact Bronwyn Wiltshire.

After next week's St Cecelia service

Next week's service is themed around St Cecelia, the patron saint of music. Following the service, there'll be a delightful wee and free concert in the church. Pick up your tea and coffee in the Knox Centre Lounge, and come back for some music.

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.

Advent and Christmas 2026 - "The Advent Arts"

29 Nov	**The Art of Alertness** 	**ADVENT 1 -** In Mark 13: 24-37, Jesus calls his disciples to be alert, and directs them to the leaves of the fig tree. The leaves of a fig tree grow slowly - so we ponder whether "being alert" requires from us a sustained diligence around gentle things, rather than a hyper-vigilance.
6 Dec	**The Art of Imagination** 	**ADVENT 2 -** In Luke 1: 26-38, Gabriel's greeting causes Mary to ask "how can this be?" In the enterprise of faith, we navigate such questions by drawing on our imagination. Mary comes out of her imagining by singing her song of praise, and we set to imagining a world of Magnificat principles.
13 Dec	**The Art of Sifting the Dream** 	**ADVENT 3 -** In Psalm 126, the psalmist describes his forebears as people who had a dream. And in John 1: 6-8, 19-28, some priests and Levites from Jerusalen go out see whether John the Baptist is the one for whom the people have been waiting. Is he the Messiah? John says he's not - but helps them sift their dreams.
20 Dec	**Nine Lessons and Carols** 	**ADVENT 4 -** Following some well-worn readings that trace humanity's deep spiritual need from the beginning, we sing some favourite carols and hear some new ones.



The Art of Now

A candlelight carol service

11:15pm, Christmas Eve

Retiring offering for Christian World Service



The Art of "already but not yet"

10:00am, Christmas Day

Retiring offering for Christian World Service

CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHOIR | CSO

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

A timeless masterpiece celebrating the Christmas story.

Carleen Ebbs - **Soprano**
Thomas Woodfield - **Alto**
LJ Crichton - **Tenor**
Kieran Kelly - **Bass**



SCAN ME TO GET YOUR TICKETS!

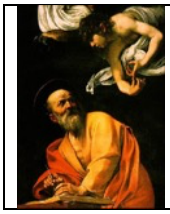
SATURDAY
5 DECEMBER 2026, 7:30pm

CHRISTCHURCH TOWN HALL

Proudly supported by

MITRE 10 MEGA FERRYMEAD

Pub Charity Limited



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 96: 1-6, 11-12
- Colossians 3: 12-17
- •. Psalm 137: 1-6

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: