



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service 24 March 2024



WALKING THE COVENANT TALK

Lent 6 - Palm Sunday

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.

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, we gather in the Knox Centre Hall,
to collect our palm branches.***

Welcome and Explanation

A special word of thanks to Nicholas Sutcliffe, who is helping us this morning with conducting the processional and several other things. Thank you, Nicholas. Thanks also to a number of guest singers who have come to help with the anthem.

The Palm Sunday Narrative: Mark 11: 1-11

The Gathering

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

PEACE IN HEAVEN

AND GLORY IN THE HIGHEST HEAVEN!

Heading towards the church, the main procession will leave the Knox Centre by the Bealey Avenue doors, walking west along Bealey Avenue towards Victoria Street, entering the church through the Victoria Street doors. Those needing a shorter route to church should feel free to enter the church straight from the Knox Centre's internal doors.

As the procession leaves the Hall, we begin to sing:

Hymn:

St Theodulph

Later form of melody by Melchior Teschner (1584-1635)



*All glory, praise and honour
to you, redeemer, king,
to whom the lips of children
made sweet hosannas ring.*

1. You are the king of Israel,
great David's royal son,
now in the Lord's name coming,
the king and blessed one.
All glory . . .
2. The company of angels
are praising you on high,
while we and all creation
together make reply.
All glory . . .
3. The people of the Hebrews
with palms before you went:
our praise and prayer and anthems
before you we present.
All glory . . .
4. To you before your passion
they sang their hymns of praise:
to you now high exalted
our melody we raise.
All glory . . .
5. Their praises you accepted;
accept the prayers we bring,
in every good delighting,
our great and gracious king.
All glory . . .

*Theodulph of Orleans (d. 821)
tr. John Mason Neale (1818-1866), alt.*

Prayer of Approach

We wonder, O God,
why Jesus chose to make today the day
that he would ride into Jerusalem.
We could hide behind phrases like "the fullness of time",
or "the appointed hour",

BUT WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

Was there maybe something that somebody said?
Or something he saw?
Was it a sense of his people now being ready,
OR JUST THE WAY THE LIGHT FELL IN THE MORNING?

We might wonder, O God,
about signals and triggers.
We might wonder about sliding doors
and opening windows,
BUT MAYBE IT WAS INEVITABLE.

Maybe as soon as a covenant person notices the weary,
forms an idea that might be a blessing,
lifts the sail of righteous indignation to the wind of the adversary,
TODAY MUST BE THE DAY.

Welcoming this day,
with all people of faith, we say
**"BLESSED IS THE ONE
WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF GOD".**

Hosanna in the highest,
GIVE PRAISE TO OUR GOD.

Silence

For times when we had something good to say
but kept silent,
for times when we had freedom to share
but clasped it only to ourselves,
for times when we were called to step forward with courage or love,
but lingered back in the shadows,
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:

Nurtured in spirit
by the figure of the suffering servant,
and taking on the mantle of the ancestor of David,
Jesus rose into Jerusalem on a donkey.
The people cried out in joy
"Hosanna in the highest heaven".

**MAY WE, LIKE THEM,
EXPRESS OUR JOY,
AND KNOW FOR OURSELVES
THAT TODAY IS THE DAY
FOR WORSHIP, SERVICE AND PRAISE.**

For we pray it in the name of Jesus,
using the words he taught, together saying

**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 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.

The Bible Lesson: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

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

Sermon: Inevitable?

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/qzDViU-GI8U>

Hymn:

Love Unknown

John Nicholson Ireland (1879-1962)



1. My song is love unknown,
my Saviour's love to me,
love to the loveless shown,
that we might lovely be.
O who am I
that for my sake
my Lord should take
frail flesh, and die?
2. Sometimes we strew his way
and his sweet praises sing,
resounding all the day
hosannas to our King.
Then "Crucify!"
is all our breath
and for his death
we thirst and cry.
3. Why, what has our Lord done?
What makes this rage and spite?
He made the lame to run,
he gave the blind their sight.
Sweet injuries!
Yet we at these
ourselves displease,
and 'gainst him rise.
4. Here might I stay and sing,
no story so divine;
never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend,
in whose sweet praise
I all my days
could gladly spend.

Samuel Crossman (1624-1684), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

To the minister's words, "May love propel
the One who comes in the name of God",
you are invited to respond **"HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!"**

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

The people waved their palm branches in celebration.

WE HAVE DONE THE SAME.

Jesus gave all that he was to walk the covenant talk.

DARE WE DO THE SAME?

In faith and hope, we offer this money and food.

MAY GOD BLESS IT ALL,

AND ENABLE US TO BE TRUE COVENANT PEOPLE.

AMEN.

Notices

Knox Singers: Ride on in Majesty
James Burt (b. 2006)

*This piece was commissioned for today's service
and is receiving its first performance*

The Lenten Litany:

O Christ,
nurtured by the covenant love of your God,
you became the Servant King.

You rode with pride
into your destiny.

Along the Lenten path,

LEAD US LORD JESUS.

O Christ,
you noticed the weary,
and had the tongue of a teacher.
You knew that today
is the day that our God has made.

Along the Lenten path,

LEAD US LORD JESUS.

God of love,
as in Jesus Christ you gave yourself to us,
so may we give ourselves to you,
living according to your will.

**KEEP OUR FEET FIRMLY IN THE WAY WHERE CHRIST LEADS US,
THIS LENT, AND ALL OUR DAYS.**

AMEN.

Hymn:

Crucifer

Sydney Hugo Nicholson (1875-1947)



*Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
'Till all the world adore his glorious name!*

1. Come Christian people, sing your praises, shout!
If we are silent, even stones cry out . . .
2. Great is the cost of walking on this road,
To follow and suffer with the Son of God . . .
3. Worlds to be born and children yet to be
Come, take up this song into eternity . . .

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

based on George William Kitchin (1827-1912) alt.

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Valet will ich dir geben, BWV 736

JS Bach (1685-1750)

The melody in the pedal line is from this morning's Processional hymn

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

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NOTICES

This Week:

24 March – 30 March

Sunday

10.00am

Morning Worship – Palm Sunday

11.30am

Len's Study Group (Shalom) in Committee Room

Wednesday

10.00am

Bible Study

Next Week: 31 March – 6 April
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Easter Day Breakfast – 31 March 2024

As we have done in other years, we will be celebrating Easter Day with breakfast on Sunday 31 March. Breakfast will be served from 8.30am – 9.15am in the Knox Lounge.

Breakfast - Fruit and Cereal: Scrambled Eggs and Bacon: Toast and Spread: Tea/Coffee. Cost - \$10 per person.

There are clipboards by both doors to be filled in by Sunday 24 March (today). We need to get an idea of numbers for food ordering but there will be enough food for extras.

Flowers for Easter

Sometimes in covenant life, where love has been pledged and defended, and where the errors made have been forgiven, it's good to respond by giving flowers. During the singing of the second hymn on Easter Day, you'll be encouraged to place a flower on the large chicken-wire cross in the sanctuary. We may end up with a crazy floral cross - which could contrast happily with the dried flowers we have used during Lent.

While there will be a basket of flowers from which you can take a flower, you might prefer to bring your own flower/s for the cross. "Say it with flowers".



Sunday 7 April 4pm: A Man Called Otto (2022). Tom Hanks stars as "The grumpiest man in the world". This film is based on the Swedish film 'A Man Called Ove' and tells the story of Otto Anderson, a grumpy widower set in his ways. When a family with young children moves in next door, his world is turned upside down. Marisol, the family's wife and mother, sweeps into his life and gradually he is transformed.

Study Book – there is a study book entitled “With Love to the World” going spare. See table in new foyer. If you would like to sample the goods that these bible reading notes offer, please take advantage of this one. Annual cost is \$52.00 to be paid to Knox’s bank account. Advise Trudy Heney or the office if you are interested.

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 ph: 379 2456.

Holy Week 2024 in the Season of the Covenant

28 March - 7:30pm
Maunder Thursday - Tenebrae
The Covenant Meal
Communion



Exodus 12: 1-14 - The Covenant people are instructed to prepare for the flight from Egypt by celebrating a particular meal.

What kind of life are they being called to as they prepare to leave their homes and begin the great trek to freedom and a new home? As we join them, but moved by Christ's revisionist meal, what do we expect? We end the service with the Litany of the Shadows, during which the light in the church is extinguished.

29 March - 10:00am
Good Friday
The Covenant Broken



Psalms 22: 1-11 - A reflection on the question "My God, why have you forsaken me", as we consider the death of the Living Covenant Christ. His words speak for all forsaken people.

We read the full Passion Narrative from John's gospel.

The "Jesus laughing and loving" project was created by the Church of Scotland in 2004. By way of envelope, filing cabinet, and lost shuffled paper, the material came to Matthew, who's releasing the paintings and reflections one by one until the papers run out.

NUMBER TWENTY NINE OF THIRTY FIVE

"Emmaus", by Emmanuel Garibay, Manila, Philippines.



Now the thing I wanted to raise is that most so-called Christians always have a limited concept of the Christ image. They always think in terms of that person who lived in Palestine 2000 years ago, so the concept of Christ derives from a very obscure historical event, in many cases made up by his disciples.

The point is that it is very difficult for most people to contextualise their faith, because the colonial packaging of the Christian faith has been deeply embedded in their consciousness. And it's hard to get away from that.

So the figure at the centre is a woman. She is drinking with them and telling a joke and everyone is laughing around her. But the real joke is that people are laughing because they thought all along that Jesus was a man, and that Jesus was a Caucasian-looking guy, you know - all these conventional concepts about Jesus.

I have a different image of Jesus, which is that of a woman, a very ordinary-looking Filipino woman, who drinks with them and has stories to tell. The idea of laughing is very common among Filipinos - to laugh at their mistakes. It's all part of understanding the culture and it's also part of contextualising the concept of faith within the culture.



The Bible reading for next week will be:

- Romans 6: 3-11

Knox Directory

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Keeping in Touch

Please help us get acquainted with you by filling in this form
and putting it in the offering bag.

Name:

Contact details