



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

28 April 2024



PHILIP BEGAN TO SPEAK

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 lectern side of the sanctuary.

Please don't leave any items unattended around the church;
they may cause alarm.

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, WHO HAS TRAVELLED THE JOURNEY BEFORE US;

JESUS, A LAMP AND LIGHT TO OUR FEET;

JESUS, WHOSE LOVE BECOMES OUR ROAD AND OUR HOME.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Blaenwern

William Penfro Rowlands (1860-1937)



1. God who sets us on a journey
to discover, dream and grow,
lead us as you led your people
in the desert long ago;
journey inward, journey outward,
stir the spirit, stretch the mind,
love for God and self and neighbour
marks the way that Christ defined.
2. Exploration brings new insights,
changes, choices we must face;
give us wisdom in deciding,
mindful always of your grace;
should we stumble, lose our bearings,
find it hard to know what's right,
we regain our true direction
focused on the Jesus light.
3. End our longing for the old days,
grant the vision that we lack –
once we've started on this journey
there can be no turning back;
keep us travelling in the knowledge
you are always at our side;
give us courage for the journey,
Christ our goal and Christ our guide.

Joy Dine (1937 – 2001), alt.

Prayer of Approach

The people sing "God has set us on a journey".
And indeed, a chariot carries one person
down the road from Jerusalem, through Gaza,
to a far away place called "home".

GOD HAS SET US ON A JOURNEY.

The traveller's mind is a suitcase of memories,
of thoughts and questions:
Who I am?
What were those prayers I heard in the temple?
Who is the holy Lamb of God?
I want to know.

GOD HAS SET US ON A JOURNEY.

Why do the words of this stranger ring like life in my ears?
Why does he give me his time and his smile?
If there is water over there, then why shouldn't I be baptised?
GOD HAS SET US ON A JOURNEY.

We too, O God,
are travelling from here to there,
from hope to fulfilment,
from darkness into light.
We pray only grace along the way,
for we know
THAT YOU HAVE SET US ON A JOURNEY.

Walk with us, O God,
THAT WE MIGHT COME SAFELY HOME.

Silence

Not just the road through Gaza,
but the road along which we must walk
as living, growing, hoping creatures,
is through a kind of war zone.
Along the way there are gate keepers
and road blockers,
and bombers
and haters.
And sometimes we are numbered with them.
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:

An Ethiopian traveler was joined along the way
by Philip the disciple of Jesus,
who shared the light and love, O God,
that you had put in his heart and mind.
For the traveler,

it was the first day of the rest of his life.

**MAY WE, LIKE THE TRAVELER,
ALSO HEAR THE GOODNESS IN THE GOSPEL,
AND SO BE FREED TO BECOME WHO WE ARE -
BRANCHES IN THE VINE OF LIFE,
CHILDREN OF THE LIVING GOD.**

For we pray this in the name of Jesus,
using the words he gave us,
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 First Lesson: Acts 8: 26-40

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

The First Reflection: What's to stop me from being baptised?

*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/V7D5ZLI_2J4*

The Gospel Lesson: John 15: 1-8

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

The Second Reflection: Life in the vine

Hymn:

Corvedale

Maurice Bevan (1921-2006)



1. There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than in God's heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.
2. For the love of God is broader
than the grasp of mortal mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
But we make God's love too narrow
by false limits of our own;
and we magnify God's strictness
with a zeal too greatly grown.
3. There is grace enough for thousands
of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations
in that upper home of bliss.
If our love were but more simple,
we would take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness
in the joy of Christ our Lord.

Frederick William Faber (1814-63), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Norman Wilkins

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

By the time the Ethiopian traveller arrived home,
he had in his possession a great gift of faith and light
for the people with whom he lived.

He offered them the welcome and love
that he had met along the way.

MAY WE ALSO OFFER GOOD THINGS

TO THOSE WHO LIVE AROUND US.

BLESS THE MONEY AND FOOD WE BRING,

THAT THEY MIGHT LEAVE THE PEOPLE REJOICING.

AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:

Hymn for ANZAC Day

Colin Gibson (1933-2022)



1. Honour the dead, our country's fighting brave,
honour our children left in foreign grave,
where poppies blow and sorrow seeds her flowers,
honour the crosses marked forever ours.
2. Weep for the places ravaged with our blood,
weep for the young bones buried in the mud,
weep for the powers of violence and greed,
weep for the deals done in the name of need.
3. Honour the brave whose conscience was their call,
answered no bugle, went against the wall,
suffered in prisons of contempt and shame,
branded as cowards, in our country's name.

4. Weep for the waste of all that might have been,
weep for the cost that war has made obscene,
weep for the homes that ache with human pain,
weep that we ever sanction war again.
5. Honour the dream for which our nation bled,
held now in trust to justify the dead,
honour their vision on this solemn day:
peace known in freedom, peace the only way.

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

Benediction and **Sung Amen**

We sit.

The Bible is not processed out of the church today.

An ANZAC Day Litany

A Narrative

. . . And so,
the peace of God, which passes all understanding,
keep our hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God
and of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

AMEN.

Knox Singers: This is my commandment
James Whitbourn (1963-2024)
Trumpeter: Thomas Eves

We stand for

The ANZAC Ode:

They shall grow not old as we that are left grow old.
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
we will remember them.

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM.

A period of silence

As the organ postlude begins, we sit

The Postlude: Nimrod, from Enigma Variations
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

***Since the postlude is part of the ANZAC Litany,
we ask for no applause today***

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 28 April – 4 May

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Len's study group (Shalom) in Committee Room
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Next Week: 5 May – 11 May

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	4.00pm	Film Group – Green Book
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Public Questions Group: Having decided that we would like to attend to at least one local and one national issue this year, the group will meet after church on Sunday 5 May to choose a couple of issues. We'll meet in the chapel at around 11:20am. During the week, Matthew will re-circulate by email the "focus" material sent out on 22 February.

Film Group - Sunday 5 May 4pm: Green Book (2019) - This Oscar winning film is inspired by a true story. In 1962 the African American pianist Don Shirley made a concert tour of the Deep South, USA. His driver and bodyguard was an Italian American Frank Vallelonga. They had to rely on the "Green Book" which listed the establishments where black people could safely stay in the highly segregated southern states. Through racism, danger, humour and humanity they formed a deep friendship. There will be no film in June. Thank you Rose for your excellent help as projectionist, and our best wishes for your return to the United States.

Shared Lunch – 12 May in the Lounge. Bring a small plate of finger food which can be left in the Lounge before Church or brought with you after coffee/tea in the Church. If you forget but would like to attend, please come along anyway as there is always enough to share. All are welcome. Yvonne Barnes.

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.

Baroque Music Community And Educational Trust Of New Zealand presents

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME 2024

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES

With commentary of Mark Chirnside.
Taking you back in time and to different venues around **Christchurch**.

Back to Baroque "Candlelight Baroque"

Monday 6th May 7pm | Knox Church

Vivaldi Recorder Concerto in C major RV 443
and other hidden gems of baroque music in cooperation with
Music Performance Department University of Canterbury

Solo Recorder - **Luka Reardon**
Violin - **Mark Menzies** | Cello - **Tomas Hurnik**
University of Canterbury students' ensemble

Back to Classic

Monday 29th July 7pm
Oxford Terrace Baptist Church

String Trios (on period instruments)
Mozart Divertimento KV 563
and other hidden gems of classical music

Violin - **Mark Menzies**
Cello - **Tomas Hurnik** | Viola - **Henry Nicholson**

Back to Romantic

Monday 9th December 7pm
Oxford Terrace Baptist Church

String Quartets: Dvořák "American" string quartet
and other hidden gems of romantic music

Violin I - **Mark Menzies** | Violin II - **Rakuto Kurano**
Viola - **Henry Nicholson** | Cello - **Tomas Hurnik**

Tickets online | Cash sale at the door | Each concert:
Adult \$30 | Senior \$20 | Student \$10 | Child \$5

Information and online tickets at
www.baroquemusic.co.nz

 **The Beautiful World
of Baroque Music**



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 THIRTY TWO OF THIRTY FIVE

"Juggling Jesus", by Graham Murdoch, Aberdeen, Scotland.



The image of Jesus juggling came to me as an expression of a man who likes to entertain his friends.

I wanted to communicate this idea of a happy man without compromising our lack of knowledge of what he looked like.



A vine - carved detail on the Knox Church communion table



The Bible reading for next week will be:

- John 15: 9-17

Knox Directory

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Secretary: Lynda Gerken,
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Office hours:
Monday - Friday, 9.00am-noon

Visit our website

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



Minister: Rev. Dr Matthew Jack
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Church Council Clerk: Janet Wilson,
ph. (03) 338 7203

Organist: Jeremy Woodside
jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com

Pastoral Visitors:
Rev Norman and Linda Wilkins
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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