



# KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

11 May 2025

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**MOTHERING ALL  
CREATION**

**A service for Mother's Day**

## 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.

**Welcome:** – We keep a moment of silence

**Introit:** Ave Maria a4 - Tomas Luis de Victoria (1548-1611)

**The Call to Worship:**

On this Mother's Day Sunday we light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ,  
a light in the world.

JESUS, WHO REMEMBERED HIS MOTHER EVEN IN AGONY ON THE  
CROSS.

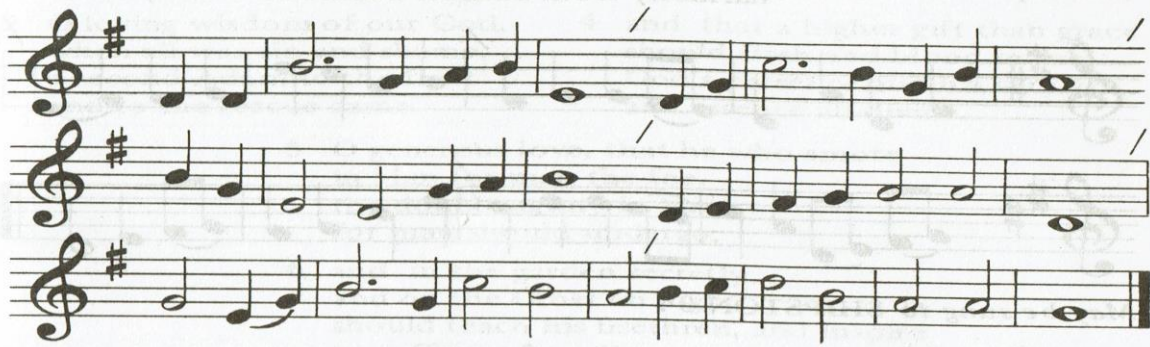
JESUS, WHO SAW HIS FOLLOWERS AS EXTENDED FAMILY.

JESUS, WHO CARED FOR ALL CREATION AND CALLS US TO DO  
LIKEWISE.

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

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

**Hymn:** (WOV 77) "For the Beauty of the Earth"



1. For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies,

*Christ, our God, to thee we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.*

2. For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light,

3. For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight.

4. For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above,  
for all gentle thoughts and mild,

5. For each perfect gift of thine  
to our race so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven,

6. For the church that evermore  
lifteth holy hands above,  
offering up on every shore  
her pure sacrifice of love,

## **Prayer of Praise**

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, for the love which  
from our birth over and around us lies

CHRIST OUR GOD, TO YOU WE RAISE THIS OUR SACRIFICE OF  
PRAISE

For the joy of human love, Mother, Father, Brother, Sister, Partner,  
Children, other Kin.

CHRIST OUR GOD, TO YOU WE RAISE THIS OUR SACRIFICE OF  
PRAISE

(silence)

## **Lament**

For the marriages & intimate relationships in disarray,  
For children who lack parental care and wander their world in disarray,  
For your whole creation O God in disarray, polluted rivers & oceans & land,  
wars of want & greed & waste.

For our indifference or numbness to all of this, we say

Lord have mercy,

CHRIST HAVE MERCY

Lord have mercy.

## **Assurance and Response**

People of God, beyond us and within us there is a greater power at work if  
we can but acknowledge it and work in harmony with it.

So in both our personal relationships and in our care for all God's creation,  
there is copious capacity for forgiveness and new beginnings.

Therefore, in the name of Christ, I say to you, we are forgiven and we are  
free.

THANKS BE TO GOD

And this we affirm as we join in the prayer that Jesus taught

## **The Lord's Prayer:**

**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.*

**Anthem:** *Magnificat in C minor - George Dyson (1883-1964)*

### **Preface to the Readings:**

Apart from Psalm 23 which we will sing, I've departed from the Lectionary Readings set for today, as I wanted to focus more particularly on mothers and mothering or caring in general.

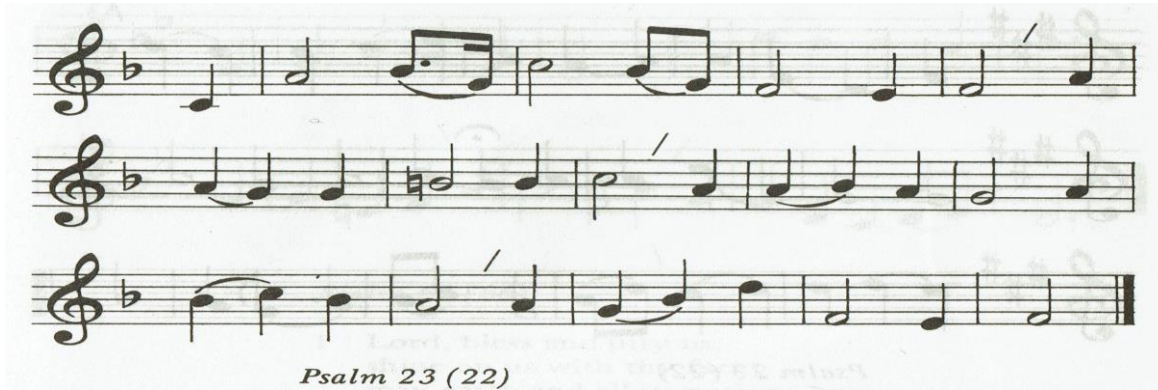
Our first reading from John 19, contains the words attributed to Jesus on the Cross where Jesus speaks to both His Mother and Disciple John linking them for their future as Mother and Son.

Our second reading from Matthew 12, records the occasion when Jesus is told His mother and brothers are waiting outside to speak to Him and Jesus is reported as replying that His mothers and brothers are those who do the will of God His Father.

Here is a broadening of what it means to be a mother or kin of God in Christ.

But before hearing these readings and my reflections arising from them, we sing Psalm 23 set down for today.

**Hymn:** (WOV 16i)            "The Lord's My Shepherd"



1. The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want.  
He makes me down to lie  
in pastures green, he leadeth me  
the quiet waters by.

2. My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
ev'n for his own name's sake.

3. Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill:  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.

4. My table thou hast furnished  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.

5. Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me:  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.

*Scottish Psalter 1650*

**The First Lesson:**

John 19: 25b-27

This is the gospel of Christ.

**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

**Reflection 1:**

Who is my Mother?



## 158 Who is my mother?

BRONWEN ♩ = 96

Ian Render

Who is my mother? Who is my brother?

All those who gather round Jesus Christ:

Spirit-blown people born from the

Gospel sit at the table, round Jesus

Christ.

1. Who is my mother?  
Who is my brother?  
All those who gather round Jesus Christ:  
Spirit-blown people  
Born from the Gospel  
Sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.
2. Differently abled,  
Differently labelled  
Widen the circle round Jesus Christ,

Crutches and stigmas,  
Cultures' enigmas  
All come together round Jesus Christ.

3. Love will relate us –  
Colour or status  
Can't segregate us round Jesus Christ:  
Family failings,  
Human derailings,  
All are accepted, round Jesus Christ.

4. Bound by one vision,  
Met for one mission  
We claim each other, round Jesus Christ.  
Here is my mother,  
Here is my brother,  
Kindred in Spirit, round Jesus Christ.

*Shirley Murray*

**The Second Lesson:** Matthew 12: 46-50

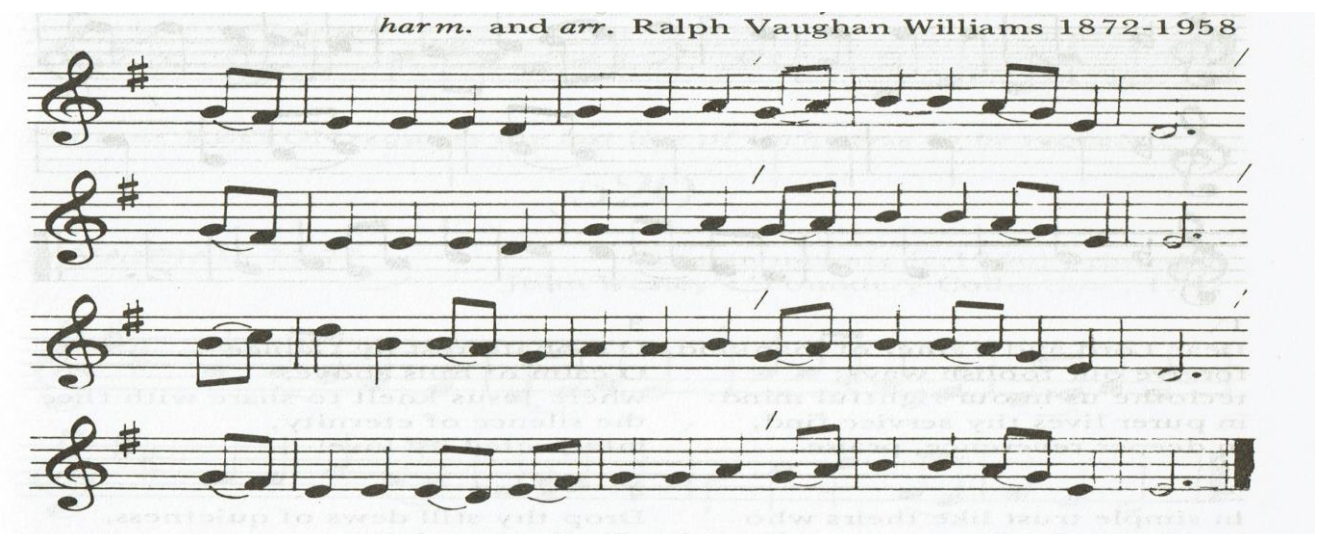
This is the gospel of Christ.

**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

**Reflection 2:** True Relatives

We reflect further on this as we sing a hymn that encompasses all God's creation and our role in tending to it and mothering it.

**Hymn:** (WOV 518) "From Thee All Skill and Science Flow"





1 From thee all skill and science flow,  
all pity, care and love,  
all calm and courage, faith and hope:  
O pour them from above;  
and part them, Lord, to each and all,  
as each and all shall need,  
to rise like incense, each to thee,  
in noble thought and deed.

2 And hasten, Lord, that perfect day  
when pain and death shall cease;  
and thy just rule shall fill the earth  
with health and light and peace;  
when ever blue the sky shall gleam,  
and ever green the sod;  
and man's rude work deface no more  
the paradise of God.

*Charles Kingsley 1819-75*

### **Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Ian Bayliss.*

### **The Offering and Dedication**

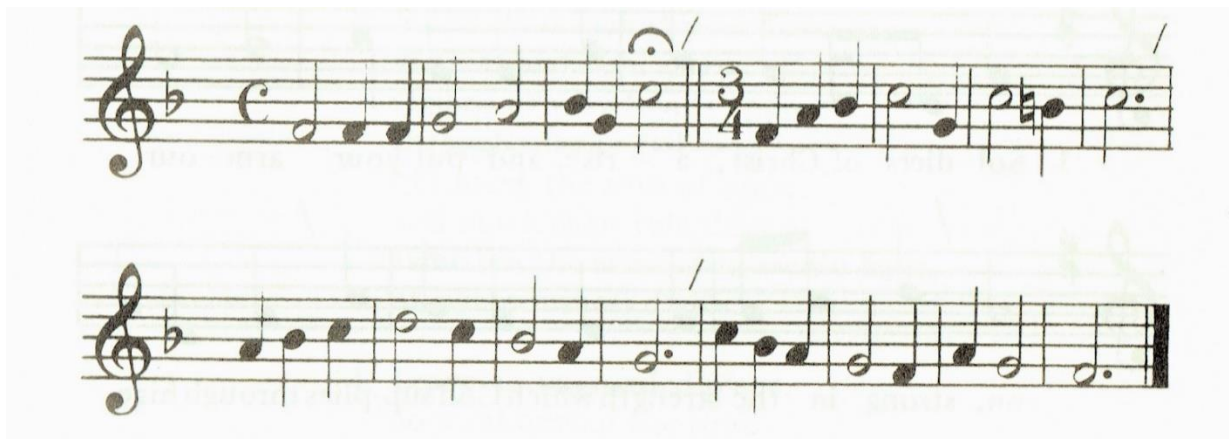
*We stand for the dedication of the Offering.*

Divine Mother, Father, Parent of us all and of all creation.  
We offer this money and food that it may enhance the lives of others  
beyond as well as within this Parish.

BLESS IT IN THE NAME OF JESUS,  
**AMEN**

**Notices:** All are welcome to morning tea here in the church at the conclusion  
of this service.

**Hymn:** (WOV480) "Forth in Thy Name"



**(TiS571 Words)**

- 1 Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,  
my daily labour to pursue,  
you, Lord, alone, resolved to know  
in all I think, or speak, or do.
- 2 Each task Thy wisdom has assigned  
Still let me cheerfully fulfil,  
in all my works your presence find,  
and prove Thy acceptable will.
- 3 You may I set at my right hand,  
whose eyes my inmost substance view,  
and labour on at Thy command,  
and offer all my works to Thee.
- 4 Give me to bear your easy yoke,  
and every moment watch and pray,  
and still to things eternal look,  
and hasten to your glorious day:
- 5 For you delightfully employ  
all that your bounteous grace has given,  
and run my course with even joy,  
and closely walk with Thee to heaven.

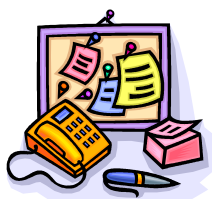
*Charles Wesley*

**Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Heut'triumphieret Gottes Sohn, BWV 630- JS Bach (1685-1750)

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

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## NOTICES

<b>This Week:</b>	<b>11 May – 17 May</b>
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship 11.30am Shalom
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study
<b>Next Week:</b>	<b>18 May – 24 May</b>
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship 12.00pm Lunch at Black & White Café
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

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](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz) ph: 379 2456.



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

- Acts 11: 1-18
- John 13: 31-35

## Knox Directory

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## 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?

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