



# KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

29 June 2025



**"GO BACK AGAIN,  
FOR WHAT HAVE  
I DONE TO YOU?"**

*1 Kings 19: 20b*

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## 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 city side of the sanctuary.

The sermon and prayers in this service were written by Matthew with no styling 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.

### The Call to Worship:

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, a light in the world.

**JESUS, BORN TO A ROLE OF REMARKABLE SIGNIFICANCE IN GOD;  
JESUS, CALLING OTHERS TO JOIN HIM IN THE TASK;  
JESUS, PRINCE IN THE KINGDOM OF LIGHT!**

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

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

### Hymn:

St Denio

Welsh Hymn Melody



1. Come, learn of God's Kingdom, the kingdom of light,  
its dawning dispelling the darkness of night;  
the light of God's glory is shining abroad,  
in splendour proclaiming that Jesus is Lord.
2. Come, seek for God's kingdom, the kingdom of Christ,  
a pearl without equal, a treasure unpriced,  
a city unshaken the years cannot move,  
where life everlasting is founded on love.
3. Come, enter God's kingdom, the gates are flung wide;  
in God's great redemption, God's children abide:  
the keys of the kingdom are theirs who proclaim  
the word of the gospel and faith in his Name.
4. Inherit God's kingdom; for Jesus declares  
to those who confess him, the kingdom is theirs:  
O come then rejoicing, his glories to sing,  
as heirs of that kingdom where Christ is the King!

*Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

"Come, Elijah, learn of the kingdom of light,  
its dawning dispelling the darkness of night."

**SO, ELIJAH COMES.**

So the cause of God finds a champion,  
through fiery exchanges,  
spirited conversations,

**SPEAKING TRUTH TO POWER.**

Until, some time later,  
Elijah is tired.

"A city unshaken, the years cannot move"?

No, the time now comes for this hero in the labours of God  
to find a rest,

**IF ONLY HE CAN FIND A SUBSTITUTE.**

Years later, Jesus invites all and sundry  
to take up *his* task.

"Come, seek for God's kingdom, the kingdom of Christ,  
a pearl without equal,

**A TREASURE UNPRICED."**

As people fashion their many excuses,  
(let me bury my father,  
let me say 'goodbye' to my friends),  
**DO WE SEE OUR LORD BECOMING IMPATIENT?**

For our failures to engage with the important,  
for our over-attachment to the safe,  
and our preferring of what is stagnant to that which is living,  
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:**

God, you do not blame us for being tired;  
you do not require from us  
more than we have to give.  
Nevertheless, you call us to inherit the kingdom,  
and to be faithful in our service.

**THAT WE MIGHT BE FAITHFUL,  
NURTURE OUR HEARTS,  
FEED US WITH YOUR GRACE,  
AND LEAD US TO PLACES OF REFRESHMENT.**

Bless and grow us well,  
for we pray it in the name of Jesus,  
who taught us to pray, by 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:** 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21

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

Let me bid farewell to the past.  
**GO BACK AGAIN, FOR WHAT HAVE I DONE?**

### **Hymn:**

Kingsfold

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. As in the world great change is felt,  
while princes become kings,  
the better self, with fear and hope,  
prays for a reign that brings  
a faithful heart, and mind that seeks  
true wisdom from above,  
and holy fear, and solid steps  
toward the God of love.
2. A tired Elijah hears from God  
that now the time has come,  
to find a generation new  
that undone work be done.  
And while the son of Shaphat says  
"I need to say goodbye  
to parents and to friends of mine",  
he knows the time is nigh:

3. a time when past, consigned to past,  
shall now be left behind,  
and challenges be met with faith,  
and hope be unconfined -  
that God's own great prophetic way  
in present days be heard,  
with lively voice, and vibrant song,  
through Christ, the living Word.

*Matthew Jack (b. 1963)*

**Sermon - Part One:** Burning bridges, and moving forward.

*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/f8VvN3JkCZs>*

**Music for Reflection:** Chorale Prelude on 'Abide with me',  
William Bolcom (b. 1938)

**The Gospel Lesson:** Luke 9: 51-62

This is the gospel of Christ.

**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

First, let me bury my father.

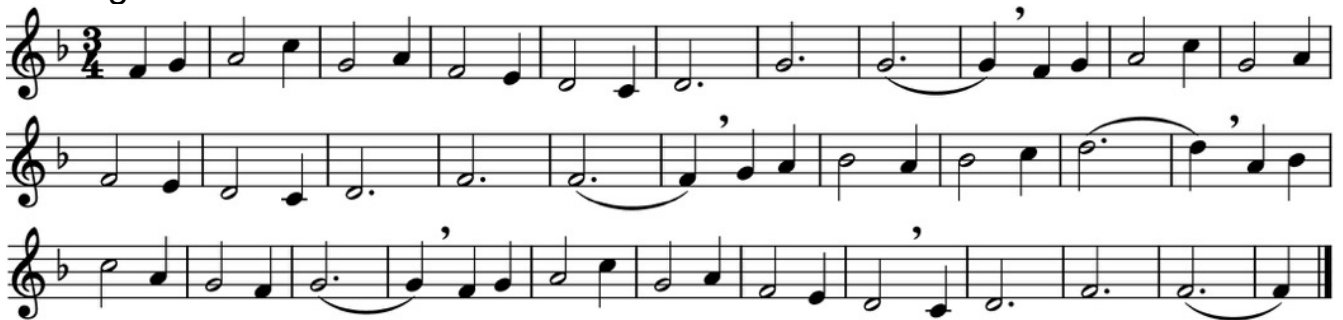
**NO! YOU GO AND PROCLAIM THE KINGDOM.**

**Sermon - Part Two:** Is there a "thinness" in the new guard?

**Hymn:**

Kelvingrove

Scottish Traditional Tune



1. Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,

will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?

2. Will you leave your self behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare  
should your life attract or scare,  
will you let me answer prayer  
in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name  
Will you set the prisoners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?
4. Will you love the 'you' you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?
5. Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.

*John Bell (b. 1949)*

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

To the minister's words "We live in a world of change",  
you are invited to respond "**GOD GIVE US OPENNESS AND STRENGTH**".

## The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

We do not offer super-human powers.

We do not offer endless energy.

We offer what you have enabled us to do, and gather, and be.

**BLESS WHAT WE OFFER,  
THE FOOD, THE MONEY, THE FAITH,  
in the name of Jesus,  
AMEN.**

## Notices

### Hymn:

Laudate Dominum

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)



1. You servants of God,  
your Sovereign proclaim,  
and publish abroad  
that wonderful name;  
the name all-victorious  
of Jesus extol;  
who, sovereign and glorious,  
now rules over all.
2. God rules from on high,  
almighty to save;  
and still God is nigh,  
whose presence we have;  
the great congregation  
God's triumphs shall praise,  
ascribing salvation  
to Jesus always.
3. So let us adore,  
and render God's right,  
all glory and power,  
all wisdom and might,  
all honour and blessing  
with angels above,  
and thanks never-ceasing,  
and infinite love.  
Amen, amen!

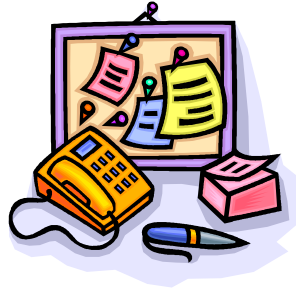
*Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.*

## Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Kyrie, Gott Vater in Ewigkeit, BWV 669  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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





## NOTICES

<b>This Week:</b>	<b>29 June – 5 July</b>
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship 11.30am Shalom “The Berlin Wall”
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study
<b>Next Week:</b>	<b>6 July – 12 July</b>
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship 4.00pm Film Group - Bonhoeffer
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

**Film Group - Sunday 6 July 4.00pm in the Lounge:** Following on from the extensive study which Len took with Shalom, we have managed to access the thoughtful and realistic film **Bonhoeffer: Pastor. Spy. Assassin.** (2024) with subtitles.

### **Introduction to Meditation:**

“The Why of Meditation: Physiological, Psychological and Spiritual aspects”

Saturday 19 July - 10am-1pm in Knox Centre Chapel

- 10.00am Presentation and discussion on the why of Meditation: Physiological, Psychological and Spiritual aspects.
- 11.00am Morning tea
- 11.20am Meditation time followed by discussion on the Meditation experience
- 12.15pm Lunch and the opportunity to discuss more and decide if there is enough interest to have a regular mediation time based at Knox
- 1.00pm Finish

Any inquiries please contact Bobbi Laing - phone number held by the office.

**The International Fourth Annual Peace Wave** - Sunday 6 July, 2-2.15pm at the Peace Bell in the Botanic Gardens. The Christchurch Chapter of World beyond War is celebrating the International Fourth Annual 24-hour Peace Wave. The event aims to connect people worldwide in a unified effort for peace and to challenge military buildup and conflicts. Please come and join in this promotion. A five minute video clip will be taken and added to 11 others generated by events

in New Zealand and Australia. These videos will be joined to those from other countries taking part. This will be to create a 24 hour long Zoom featuring live peace actions in the streets and squares of the world, moving around the globe with the sun. This event is promoted by the following groups: 'International Peace Bureau' (IPB), 'Stop the War', 'Gensuikyo' (The Japan Council against A & H Bombs) and World Beyond War. Any inquiries please contact Bobbi Laing - phone number held by the office.

**Community Café Vacancy** - A local community development organisation seeks an experienced Café and Kitchen Gardens Community Development Worker to co-ordinate a small café team to operate its grassroots community café located at the Linwood Village for 12 hours a week. This position would suit someone with hospitality experience including basic cooking and baking, a knowledge of food hygiene and safety regulations and an appreciation of the link between growing food and community wellbeing. The ideal person will be comfortable in a leadership position, have an ability to nurture and encourage the growth and development of volunteer workers as well as be able to provide learning opportunities for people in the community. Some knowledge or experience in a community development role would be an advantage. Contact Jenny - phone number held by the office - for a Job Package and/or to arrange a visit to the workplace. Applications close on Tuesday 1 July at 5pm.

**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.**



**Naomi Ferguson and Deborah Wai Kapohe** in concert as part of the 'Play it Forward' series at The Piano, Sunday 6 July 4 - 5pm.

Merging jazz and opera traditions, Deborah and Naomi present a programme full of surprises and delights. Their "spellbinding" shows feature songs celebrating their individual musical journeys: waiata, arias, jazz standards, originals, and favourites from each of their extensive catalogues of songs. Accompanying themselves on guitar and piano, their work celebrates their diverse musical backgrounds and shared love of storytelling.

# Services in July - Basic Human Rights

**Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), says that every human being has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including . . .**

**. . . including food**



**. . . including clothing**



**. . . including welfare in times of need**



**. . . including access to Health Services**



**6 July**

**Matthew 14: 13-21**

Noticing the presence of many people who have no food, the disciples urge Jesus to send them away. He responds "**you** give them something to eat". We celebrate communion

**13 July**

**Genesis 3: 8-14, 21.**

Having experienced shame in their nakedness, Adam and Eve receive garments from God

**Matthew 22: 2-14**

The curious case of the under-dressed wedding guest.

**20 July**

**John 19: 23-27**

One of the last things Jesus did was make sure that John would take care of Mary - his last priority was to care for who's left.

**Acts 2: 43-47**

The believers shared all they had according to the needs of each.

**27 July**

**John 5: 2-9a**

The man blocked for years from healing, because he's not quick enough to reach the miracle pool.

**John 11: 28-37**

Through a lack of access to what could have saved him, Lazarus dies. But the late-arriving love of Jesus turns the story around.



## The Bible reading for next week will be:

- Matthew 14: 13-21

## 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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Email: