



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

13 July 2025



**2/4 IN A SERIES OF SERVICES ON
UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

ACCESS TO CLOTHING

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 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.

The Call to Worship:

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

JESUS, WHOSE TUNIC MAY HAVE BEEN HIS ONLY POSSESSION;

JESUS, WHO SPOKE ABOUT GOD CLOTHING THE FLOWERS;

JESUS, WHOSE INNER CLOTHING WAS LOVE, SERVICE AND GRACE.

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Down Ampney

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. Come down, O love divine, seek out this soul of mine,
and visit it with your own ardor glowing.
O Comforter, draw near, within my heart appear,
And kindle it, your holy flame bestowing.
2. O let it freely burn, til earthly passions turn
to dust and ashes in its heat consuming;
and let your glorious light shine ever on my sight,
and clothe me round, the while my path illuming.
3. Let holy charity my outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing;
true lowliness of heart, which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.
4. And so the yearning strong, with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the power of human telling;
for none can guess its grace, till we become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Bianco da Siena (d. 1434)

Trans: Richard Frederick Littledale (1833-1890)

Prayer of Approach

There is church today,
we may have thought when the alarm went off this morning.

WHAT SHALL WE WEAR?

Part of it depends on the options in the wardrobe.
Not many of us have afforded mink coats and tiaras.
And anyway,
mink, so "last century
wouldn't fit in with the culture of this time and place.

WHAT SHALL WE WEAR?

We dress to feel comfortable;
we dress to fit in;
we dress to hide;
we dress to express our points of difference.
It's all very nuanced.

WHAT SHALL WE WEAR?

Then we find ourselves singing
about being clothed with light,
about the vesture of lowliness of heart,
about the inner clothing of charity.

Here in the house of faith,
we're called to a new engagement with the wardrobe.
WHAT SHALL WE WEAR?

In worship, we come before our God,
and we wonder, of our inner clothing,
ARE WE PROPERLY DRESSED?

Silence

We confess that sometimes we are unhelpfully proud.
Sometimes we are pretentious.
Sometimes we look down on those of simpler expression.
Sometimes we put things on to hide who we fear we are.
It's not so much cloak and dagger,
as much as "you don't see me".

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:

God, you know our vulnerabilities;
you see us as we are.
And yet, you see us also with a love
that gives us protection and dignity.
You clothe us with dignity and delight.

**AS WE HAVE BEEN CLOTHED BY YOUR MERCY,
SO ENABLE US TO BE MERCIFUL TO OTHERS,**

for we pray this in the name of Jesus,
who taught us to pray, 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 United Nations Declaration of Universal Human Rights

Article 25

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself [sic] and of his [sic] family, including . . . **clothing**.

Reflection:

A family photo, a famous photo and some anecdotes



Sermons are posted on our website: <http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html>
Hard copies are available – ask the person at the door. A video of this sermon
being practised is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/tmd1TnhRw8U>

The First Lesson:

Genesis 3: 8-14, 21

In this is the Word of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

They heard the sound of the Lord God in the garden,

AND THEY HID THEMSELVES.

A Reflection:

Who told you that you were naked?

Music for Reflection: Gymnopedie no. 1 - Erik Satie (1866-1925)

The work's unusual title comes from the French form of gymnopaedia, the ancient Greek word for an annual festival where young men danced either naked or, perhaps figuratively, simply unarmed.

The Second Lesson: Matthew 25: 32-40

This is the gospel of Christ.

PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Just as you clothed one of the least of them,

EVEN SO, YOU CLOTHED ME.

A Reflection:

When did we see you naked, and clothe you?

Hymn:

Repton

Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)



1. Dear God, embracing humankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re-clothe us in our rightful mind:
in purer lives your service find,
in deeper reverence praise.
2. In simple trust like theirs who heard,
beside the Syrian sea,
the gracious calling of your word,
let us, like them, by spirit stirred,
rise up and followers be.
3. O Sabbath rest by Galilee!
O calm of hills above!
There Jesus met you prayerfully:
the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!

4. Drop your still dews of quietness,
till all our strivings cease;
take from our souls the strain and stress,
and let our ordered lives confess
the beauty of your peace.
5. Breathe through the heats of our desire
your coolness and your balm;
let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;
speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,
O still small voice of calm.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Brian Turner

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

If anyone feels shame about their incapacity to put food on the table,
LET THIS OFFERING HELP.

If anyone feels exposed to judgment,
LET THIS OFFERING HELP.

Make of us
a people who make things better for the vulnerable,
as we all are vulnerable in our own ways.
LET THIS OFFERING HELP.

Bless and direct its use,
in Jesus' name,
AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:

Woodlands

Walter Greathouse (1877-1949)



1. Stand tall in Christ, all people of our God,
no other idol will suffice this hour.
In Jesus Christ all captives are set free,
all hurts are healed and hope is born anew.
2. Stand tall in Love, all people who would dare
be reconcilers where divisions lie;
in love will pain and loneliness be eased
and rainbows hung in all our hearts again.
3. Stand tall in Peace, all people who love life,
whose lives are candles in earth's darkest place,
who plead for justice and support the weak
that all might live in hope and harmony.
4. Stand tall in Faith, all people who would share
as trusting partners in God's enterprise,
whose lives would speak in deeds, not just in words,
of grace, forgiveness and a generous heart.

Margaret Kouvelis (b. 1949)

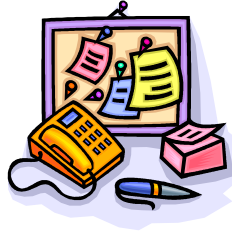
Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Trumpet Tune in D

David N Johnson (1922-1987)

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

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NOTICES

This Week: 13 July – 19 July
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
11.30am Shalom
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Next Week: 20 July – 26 July
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship
12.00pm Lunch at Black & White Café
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

Shalom - After church today, Dr. Richard Milne will be giving a presentation and leading a discussion on the development and use of a new interfaith 'Guide to Climate Action.' All welcome.

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 office.

Sunday lunch 20 July – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat at the **Black and White Café, 45 Merrin St, Avonhead**. Meet at around 12pm. Please, add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance if you are planning to join us.

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.

SERENADE TO MUSIC



Toi Toi Opera's 6th Birthday Soirée

Join us and our remarkable patron Patrick Power ONZM as we celebrate Toi Toi Opera's wonderful first six years. An exquisite evening of opera featuring highlights from seasons past, a sneak peek of seasons yet to come, and a rare performance of Ralph Vaughan Williams' shimmering 'Serenade to Music.' Cake will follow in the Atrium, with paid bar service available.

FRI 1 AUGUST 2025,
7.30PM



The Philip Carter Family Concert Hall
The Piano: Centre for Music and the Arts
156 Armagh Street | Christchurch
Tickets \$50: toitoiopera.com
All proceeds to support our forthcoming opera seasons.



Next two weeks

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 his [sic] family, including

... welfare in times of need



... access to Health Services



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.



You are invited to a Forum on:

OUR ENVIRONMENT

From where to here ... to where?

Keynote Speaker: Dr Paul Broady
Adjunct Appointment
University of Canterbury
School of Biological Sciences

Faith Responder: Dr Richard Milne
Health Economist and Environmental Activist

When: 6.00 pm
Thursday 17 July 2025
(refreshments from 5.30 pm)
Koha please

Where: Knox Centre
cnr Bealey Ave & Victoria St

Organised by EcuAction

Further info from: Marilyn, ph 021-0613940

Brian, ph 021 129 4305



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- John 19: 23-27
- Acts 2: 43-47

Knox Directory

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Visit our website

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



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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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