



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

9 November 2025



WATER

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 assistance by Artificial Intelligence.

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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.

**This morning, we welcome Rev. Dr Tim Pratt,
the National Director of Christian World Service.**

The Call to Worship:

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

**JESUS, TREADING THE WAVES OF THE STORM;
JESUS, A LIFE-GIVING SPRING OF WATER FOR ALL;
JESUS, IN WHOM WE NEVER AGAIN WILL THIRST.**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Dam Busters March

Eric Coates (1886-1958)



1. God is our strength and refuge,
our present help in trouble;
and we therefore will not fear
though the earth should change!
Though mountains shake and tremble,
though swirling floods are raging,
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!
2. There is a flowing river,
within God's holy city;
God is in the midst of her -
she shall not be moved!
God's help is swiftly given,
thrones vanish at God's presence -
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!
3. Come, see the power of our maker,
revealed in Jesus' courage:
wars will cease across the world
when is shattered the spear!
Be still and know your Creator,
uplifted in the nations -
God the Lord of hosts is with us evermore!

*From Psalm 46,
Richard Bewes (b. 1934), alt.*

Prayer of Approach

We sing of a flowing river,
coursing through something called the "holy city".
If it's water, it moves and dances,
it reflects and ripples,
it sinks and softens.

**THERE IS A FLOWING RIVER;
PRAISE TO THE FLOWING GOD.**

We sing of a flowing river,
sweeping through the dry places,
the parched places,
the places where life clings on -
to bring forth growth and life.
**THERE IS A FLOWING RIVER;
PRAISE TO THE FLOWING GOD.**

And singing of the flowing river,
we remember Moses striking the rock,
till water burst forth for the people.
**THERE IS A FLOWING RIVER;
PRAISE TO THE FLOWING GOD.**

We remember the psalmist, singing songs
of those who delight in God,
so are like trees planted by the water.
**THERE IS A FLOWING RIVER.
PRAISE TO THE FLOWING GOD.**

We remember the Lord,
who in Cana of Galilee,
took stone cold jars of water,
turning it into wine
that made the wedding most wonderfully glad.
**THERE IS A FLOWING RIVER;
PRAISE TO THE FLOWING GOD.**

We gather today
to hear water stories
that will speak of God's goodness
AND OUR CALL TO BE A PEOPLE OF PLENTY.

Hear our silent worship.

Silence

With our praise, O God,
hear also our confession -
for the polluted waterways,
for the people who have to walk miles to find water that is safe,
for the climate change we fuel
that makes island people frightened of waves on the horizon,
and for how we feel when Christ says
"give the stranger a cup of water".

Lord have mercy.
CHRIST HAVE MERCY.
Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

People of God,
you who drink from the water of life shall never thirst again.
You who are fed by the word of life shall never hunger.
This day God calls you to a new life in Christ.
Indeed,

. . . In the name of Christ, I say to you:
You are forgiven and you are free.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Theme Prayer:

Through John the Divine, O God,
you gave us a vision of water flowing through the city,
bringing new depths of nourishment,
NEW PENETRATION OF OUR THIRST.

In Jesus, you gave us a vision of raging seas
commanded to be calm:
SAFETY WON FOR STORM-THREATENED PEOPLE.

Open our hearts and minds, O God,
to your many images of water, blessing and calling;
THERE IS A FLOWING RIVER;
PRAISE TO THE FLOWING GOD,

through 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 First Lesson: Revelation 22: 1-5

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

The Gospel Lesson: Mark 4: 36- 41

This is the gospel of Christ.
PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.

Hymn:

Melita

J.B Dykes (1823-1876)



1. O great Creator, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bidst the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
2. O Christ, whose voice the waters heard
and hushed their raging at thy word,
who walkedst on the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.
3. O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the waters dark and rude,
and bid their angry tumult cease,
and give for wild confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.

4. O Trinity of love and power,
our people shield in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
guard them wherever they may go:
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

William Whiting (1825-1878)

Sermon: Storm-busters

Generally, sermons are posted the sermon page of our website shortly after the service. Hard copies of the sermons are available before and after the service – ask the person at the door.

Hymn:

Oasis

T. Brian Coleman (b. 1920)



1. As water to the thirsty,
as beauty to the eyes,
as strength that follows weakness,
as truth instead of lies,
as song-time and springtime
and summertime to be,
so is our God, the living God,
so is our God to me.
2. Like calm in place of clamour,
like peace that follows pain,
like meeting after parting,
like sunshine after rain,
like moonlight and starlight
and sunlight on the sea,
so is our God, the living God,
so is our God to me.
3. As sleep that follows fever,
as gold instead of grey,
as freedom after bondage,
as sunrise to the day;
as home to the traveller
and all we long to see,
so is our God, the living God,
so is our God to me.

Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926-2024)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Ian Bayliss

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Were we to offer water here in church,
IT WOULD FALL INTO THE CARPET.

But, were we to offer it in the dry places,
IT WOULD ENABLE GROWTH.

And so, our God,
we pray that what we offer
will find its way to the right place,
**DOING THE RIGHT THING,
AND MAKING THE BEST DIFFERENCE.**

Trouble our hearts and minds
until we make the perfect offering,
**THROUGH JESUS CHRIST,
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Moscow

Felice Giardini (1716-1796)



1. God whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight,
hear us, we humbly pray,
and, where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!
2. Saviour, who came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
now to all humankind
let there be light!
3. Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed on your flight!
Move on the waters' face,
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light!
4. Gracious and holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might,
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide
let there be light!

John Marriott (1780-1825) alt.

Benediction and **Sung Amen**

Postlude: Menuet Gothique, from Suite Gothique
Leon Boellmann (1862-1897)

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

Knox Church Hymn-a-thon 2:00pm, today



Come along to have a great sing-song of hymns requested by many.

We have twelve great melodies, and some rousing texts, some of which haven't been heard in worship for a while.

We'll have an organ interlude and postlude.

Bring your voice, and enjoy the cup of tea afterwards.

1. **He who would valiant be**
2. **Be still, my soul**
3. **O love that wilt not let me go**
4. **Angel voices, ever singing**
5. **Be still**
6. **God weeps**
7. **Mine eyes have seen the glory**
8. **Our life has its seasons**
9. **Father of heaven**
10. **My song is love unknown**
11. **At the name of Jesus**
12. **Guide me**



NOTICES

This Week: 9 November – 15 November

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Shalom in the Lounge
	2:00pm	Hymn-a-thon
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Next Week: 16 November – 22 November

Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
		including a moment of remembrance for transgender people
Wednesday	12.00pm	Lunch at Black & White Café
	10.00am	Bible Study

Shalom today: The 3rd in the series re Dr Larry Dossey's book about prayer and medical practice. All welcome.

Sunday lunch 16 Nov – 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.

Shalom: Advance notice for meeting after church on Sunday 23 November 2025. Dr. Rose Isbell will briefly talk about labyrinths which are 'known to quiet the mind, open the heart and ground the body'. We will have the opportunity to walk an actual labyrinth. All welcome.

Knox Life: If you have a story/recipe/joke to share for the Christmas edition of Knox Life please send to the office asap.

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.



Christian
World Service
Celebrating 80 years

This Christmas
we are focusing
on helping our
global partners
to provide safe
water.

Give water Give life

"But let justice roll on like a river"
Amos 5:24

Over 1.4 million people in developing countries, mainly children,
die each year from diseases caused by lack of safe water for
drinking, for hygiene, and/or for sanitation.

World Health Organisation, 2024.

Photo: Christian World Service

DONATE NOW

www.cws.org.nz



Tails of Toby the Cat

On Sundays 16, 23 and
30 November, eight Toby
the Cat books (written by
Sheila Cuthbertson) will
be available from a table
at the rear of the Church.
\$10.00 per copy, or a full
set of eight for \$70.00.
CASH ONLY.





The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Deuteronomy 34: 1-8
- Galatians 6: 12a, 13-16

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?

Name:

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