



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

31 May 2026



# GOD AND THE PEOPLE

a service for Trinity Sunday



1. Holy, holy, holy, God the almighty!  
Early in the morning we praise your majesty:  
Holy, holy, holy! - merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.
2. Holy, holy, holy! Saints adore you truly,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim bow before you only,  
from the beginning, God eternally.
3. Holy, holy, holy! - though we know but dimly,  
though the eyes of human-kind your glory may not see;  
you alone are holy, you alone are worthy  
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4. Holy, holy, holy, God the almighty!  
All your works shall praise your name, in earth and sky and sea,  
Holy, holy, holy! - merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

*Reginald Heber (1783-1826)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

The human beings climb out of their beds, O God,  
and you are with them,  
opening their eyes,  
calling their names.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!**

They do their ablutions,  
make their tea or coffee.  
They spread the butter on the toast,  
and remember that Jesus did this too.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!**

They put on their church clothes,  
do their hair.  
They ready themselves for the day,  
and the Spirit hovers over and around them.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!**

Then, assembled, they sing of the holy One,  
the blessed One, the merciful and mighty One,  
who gives them life,  
lifts up their hearts,  
and lives eternally to set them free.

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY!**

God in three persons,  
**BLESSED TRINITY,**

hear our prayer,  
**RECEIVE OUR SILENT PRAISE.**

*Silence*

As ordinary human life  
intersects with holy vision,  
more than little gaps appear to open.  
They are gaps between the good to which we are called,  
and how we plod along,  
gaps between that to which we aspire,  
and that for which we are willing to settle,  
gaps between living as Christ calls us to live,  
and the damage we do in the world.  
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:**

Three-fold God, your love comes to us  
through the wondrous gift of creation,  
the blessing and mending ministry of Christ and his resurrection,  
and through the indwelling in the church of the Holy Spirit.

**BLESS US TO REJOICE IN ALL THE WAYS THAT YOU ARE PRESENT,  
AND TO BE LOVING PARTICIPANTS  
IN WHAT YOU HAVE YET TO DO,**

for we pray this in the name of Jesus,  
whose words we remember, as together we say

**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 Goal of the Doctrine**

*Generally, sermons are posted on 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. A video version of this sermon is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/fVDFxQkEe-E>*

**The First Lesson:** Genesis 1:24 - 2:3

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

**Reflection:** Who is this God?

**Music for Reflection:** To the Rising Sun  
Trygve Torjussen (1885-1977)  
*Happy Birthday Sheila*

**The Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 28: 16-20

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

**Reflection:** Who are these people?

## Hymn:

Bunessan

Gaelic melody



1. This day God gives me  
strength of high heaven,  
sun and moon shining,  
flame in my hearth,  
flashing of lightning,  
wind in its swiftness,  
deeps of the ocean,  
firmness of earth.
2. This day God sends me  
strength to sustain me,  
might to uphold me,  
wisdom as guide.  
Your eyes are watchful,  
your ears are listening,  
your lips are speaking,  
friend at my side.
3. God's way is my way,  
God's shield is round me,  
God's host defends me,  
saving from ill.  
Angels of heaven,  
drive from me always  
all that would harm me,  
stand by me still.
4. Rising, I thank you,  
mighty and strong One,  
king of creation,  
giver of rest,  
firmly confessing  
threeness of persons,  
oneness of Godhead,  
trinity blest.

*James Quinn (1919-2010), alt.*

## Prayers for Others and Ourselves

*led by Murray Winn*

### The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

Through your gracious openness, O God,  
we have perceived you as One who blesses  
and desires that the good might be multiplied.

**IF WHAT WE OFFER HERE IS GOOD,  
WE PRAY IT MIGHT BE MULTIPLIED  
FOR THE BLESSING OF THE PEOPLE.**

This is our prayer,  
made in the name of the One through whom you are revealed,  
even Jesus Christ, living among us.

**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.*

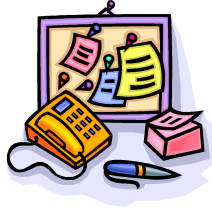
**Benediction** and **Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** 1st movement, Trio Sonata no. 1 in E flat, BWV 525  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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

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## NOTICES

**This Week: 31 May – 6 June**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Next Week: 7 June – 13 June**  
Sunday 10.00am Morning Worship  
4.00pm Film Group  
Wednesday 10.00am Bible Study

**Meditation:** An opportunity to meditate with fellow Knox attendees is available on a regular basis on:

1. The first Saturday morning of each month at 10.00am. The next one on Saturday will be on 6 June - in the Chapel.
  2. The third Wednesday morning of the month at 8.00am. The next one on Wednesday will be on 17 June in the Chapel.
- All are welcome.

**Shalom** - For the months of June, July and August 2026, Shalom will meet after the church service at 11.30am in the Lounge.

- 14 June Richard Milne - Resilience in the face of climate change and supply chain disruption  
12 July Robyn Frew - on the subject of death  
9 August Murray Winn - on the relationship between religion and psychology.

We'll break midway for soup and bread roll. Everyone is welcome so just turn up.

**Monday 1 June** (King's Birthday public holiday) - Town Hall Auditorium 2pm. Martin Setchell, annual organ curator's concert. Admission FREE. No registration/booking required. (Donations requested)

**Film Group - Sunday 7 June 4pm** in the lounge: Calendar Girls (2003): Another amazing film based on a true story, and something fun as well as moving. A group of women pose for a charity calendar to raise money for blood cancer research. They pose 'nude' but they are always shown decently covered... and the women in the film are all the famous veteran English lady actors! A wonderful film for a winter's evening.

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 (Knox Presbyterian Church). 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.



## Services in June - Human Rights Month

### The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)

#### Articles 1 and 2

Human beings are free and equal in dignity and rights - without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.



7 June

#### EQUALITY AND EQUITY

##### Genesis 2: 4-8

With skill and tenderness, God makes the human being and puts him / her into a beautiful garden. Provision for human welfare is made. In our making of provision, what do we make of the claim that all people are equal? Does it call for equal treatment - or is there something else called "equity"? We celebrate communion.

## Articles 3 and 5

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.



## Article 13

Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country.



## Article 16

The right to, or not to, marry.

14 June

## DIGNITY AND THE FREEDOM TO EXIST

**Exodus 20: 1-6**

As God owns a great punishing jealousy, we wonder about our manifesting of God's image. Where does our anger come from, and how is it related to how we punish one another?

**Acts 3: 1-15**

After an act of healing, something the opposite of an act of punishing, Peter speaks of God raising the One whom the people had crucified. Is this a declaration of God's rejection of punishment?

21 June

## FREEDOM TO MOVE, SAFE PLACES

**Deuteronomy 24: 17-21**

Special provision is made for the "alien" in the sharing of the harvest, and a key principle is remembering the experience of having been "alien" oneself.

**Philippians 2: 5-11, 3: 20-21**

Paul speaks of a new citizenship for which we wait.

We watch a video of Ian McKellen delivering a piece of Shakespeare about turning away the refugee (mountainish inhumanity).

28 June

## ALL ABOUT MARRIAGE

**Genesis 21: 8-14**

**Matthew 22: 23-33**



## The Bible reading for next week will be:

- Genesis 2: 4-8

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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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